

FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 277**  
**101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

0939H.02C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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**AN ACT**

To amend chapter 217, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to parole eligibility.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 217, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 217.697, to read as follows:

**217.697. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any offender who:**

2 **(1) Is incarcerated in a correctional facility after being sentenced by a court of this**  
3 **state;**

4 **(2) Is serving a sentence of life without parole for a minimum of fifty years or more,**  
5 **who was sentenced under section 565.008 for an offense committed prior to October 1,**  
6 **1984, and who has not been sentenced to imprisonment for the duration of his or her**  
7 **natural life without the possibility of probation or parole;**

8 **(3) Is sixty-five years of age or older;**

9 **(4) Has no felony conviction for a dangerous felony, as defined under section**  
10 **556.061, prior to the conviction for which he or she is currently incarcerated; and**

11 **(5) Is not a convicted sex offender**

12  
13 **shall receive a parole hearing upon serving thirty years or more of his or her sentence.**

14 **2. During the parole hearing required under subsection 1 of this section, the parole**  
15 **board shall determine whether there is a reasonable probability the offender shall live and**  
16 **remain at liberty without violating the law upon release. If the board determines a**  
17 **reasonable probability exists, the offender shall be eligible for release upon a finding that**  
18 **the offender has:**

19 **(1) A record of good conduct while incarcerated;**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

- 20           **(2) Demonstrated self-rehabilitation while incarcerated;**  
21           **(3) A workable parole plan, including community and family support; and**  
22           **(4) An institutional risk factor score and a mental health score determined to be**  
23 **appropriate by the parole board.**
- 24           **3. Any offender granted parole under this section shall be subject to a minimum**  
25 **of five years of supervision by the division of probation and parole upon release.**
- 26           **4. Nothing in this section shall diminish the consideration of parole under any other**  
27 **provision of law applicable to the offender or the responsibility and authority of the**  
28 **governor to grant clemency, including pardons and commutation of sentences if necessary**  
29 **or desirable.**

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