

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: UNFAV 04/25/2013

The Committee on Appropriations (Joyner) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 57 and 58 insert:

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(c)1. A person who is sentenced under paragraph (b) shall have his or her sentence reviewed after 25 years of incarceration. The sentencing court shall retain original jurisdiction for the duration of the sentence for this purpose. The Department of Corrections shall notify each juvenile offender who is committed to the department of her or his eligibility to participate in a resentencing hearing within 18

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months after 24 years of incarceration. The juvenile offender may apply to the court of original jurisdiction requesting that a resentencing hearing be held.

- 2. A juvenile offender is entitled to be represented by counsel, and the court shall appoint a public defender to represent the juvenile offender if the juvenile cannot afford an attorney.
- 3. The court shall hold a resentencing hearing to determine whether the juvenile offender's sentence should be modified. The resentencing court shall consider all of the following factors:
- a. Whether the juvenile offender demonstrates maturity and rehabilitation.
- b. Whether the juvenile offender remains at the same level of risk to society as he or she was at the time of the initial sentencing.
- c. The opinion of the victim's next of kin. The absence of the victim's next of kin from the resentencing hearing is not a factor in the court's determination under this section.
- d. Whether the juvenile offender was a relatively minor participant in the criminal offense or acted under extreme duress or the domination of another person.
- e. Whether the juvenile has shown sincere and sustained remorse for the criminal offense.
- f. Whether the juvenile offender's age, maturity, and psychological development at the time of the offense affected his or her behavior.
- g. Whether the juvenile offender has successfully obtained a general educational development [GED] certificate or completed any other educational, technical, work, vocational, or self-



rehabilitation program.

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- h. Whether the juvenile offender was a victim of sexual, physical, or emotional abuse before he or she committed the offense.
- i. The results of any mental health assessment, risk assessment, or evaluation of the juvenile offender as they apply to rehabilitation.
- 4. If the court determines at the resentencing hearing that the juvenile offender has been rehabilitated and is reasonably believed to be fit to reenter society based on these factors, a term of probation of at least 5 years, shall be imposed. If the court determines that the juvenile offender has not demonstrated rehabilitation and is not fit to reenter society based on these factors, the court shall issue an order in writing stating why the sentence is not being modified.
- 5. A juvenile offender who is not resentenced under this paragraph at the initial resentencing is eligible for up to three more sentencing reviews. A minimum of 5 years must pass before the individual is eligible for the sentencing review. A juvenile sentenced to a term of years less than life may not petition the court for a review of her or his sentence if she or he is in the last 7 years of her or his sentence.
- (d) This subsection shall apply retroactively. ======== T T T T, E A M E N D M E N T =========== And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 7

and insert:

imprisonment is an appropriate sentence; providing that certain persons for whom a life sentence is

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appropriate may have the sentence reviewed after 24 years of incarceration; specifying that the juvenile offender is entitled to be represented by counsel; requiring the court to consider certain specified factors before resentencing the juvenile offender; requiring at least 5 years of probation if released into the community; providing that an offender is eligible for up to three sentencing reviews; requiring that a minimum of 5 years must pass before the offender is eligible for the sentencing review; providing for retroactive application; providing an