

By Senator Bernard

24-01586-25

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to objective parole guidelines;  
3       amending s. 947.165, F.S.; revising requirements for  
4       objective parole guidelines; requiring the Commission  
5       on Offender Review to submit a specified statistical  
6       analysis to the Legislature; providing an effective  
7       date.

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9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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11       Section 1. Section 947.165, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
12       read:

13       947.165 Objective parole guidelines.—

14       (1) The commission shall develop and implement objective  
15       parole guidelines which shall be the criteria upon which parole  
16       decisions are made. The objective parole guidelines shall be  
17       developed according to an acceptable research method and shall  
18       be based on the seriousness of offense and the likelihood of  
19       favorable parole outcome by identifying an inmate's use of  
20       vocational, education, and self-betterment programs and courses  
21       in the department. The guidelines shall require the commission  
22       to aggravate or aggregate each consecutive sentence in  
23       establishing the presumptive parole release date. Factors used  
24       in arriving at the salient factor score and the severity of  
25       offense behavior category may ~~shall~~ not be applied as  
26       aggravating circumstances. If the sentencing judge files a  
27       written objection to the parole release of an inmate as provided  
28       for in s. 947.1745(6), such objection may be used by the  
29       commission as a basis to extend the presumptive parole release

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30 date.

31 (2) At least once a year, the commission shall review the  
32 objective parole guidelines and make any revisions considered  
33 necessary by virtue of statistical analysis of commission  
34 actions, which analysis uses acceptable research and  
35 methodology. The statistical analysis shall be submitted to the  
36 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
37 Representatives upon completion.

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.