

2025 -- H 5180

LC000619

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINALS -- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS -- PAROLE

Introduced By: Representatives Cruz, Craven, Dawson, McEntee, Solomon, J. Brien,
Diaz, Kislak, Ajello, and Morales

Date Introduced: January 24, 2025

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 13-8-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 13-8 entitled "Parole" is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **13-8-2. Qualifications of board members.**

4 The seven (7) electors to be named by the governor shall have the following qualifications:

5 (1)(i) One of the qualified electors shall be a psychologist or a physician who is
6 professionally qualified in the field of psychiatry or neurology;

7 (ii) One shall be a member in good standing of the Rhode Island bar;

8 (iii) One shall be a person who is professionally trained in correctional work or in some
9 closely related general field as a social work; ~~and~~

10 (iv) One shall be a law enforcement officer; and

11 (v) One shall be a person formerly incarcerated or directly impacted by the criminal legal
12 system who has completed the probation and parole process three (3) or more years prior with a
13 background in one of the following areas: psychology, mental health and/or substance use,
14 transitional housing, re-entry after incarceration, education or law.

15 (2) All of the qualified electors shall be individuals who shall also have shown an interest
16 in social welfare problems.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would require one elector of the parole board to be a person directly impacted by
2 the criminal justice system who has completed the probation/parole process three (3) or more years
3 prior to selection with a professional background in certain enumerated areas.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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