



# HOUSE BILL 424: Juveniles/Eliminate LWOP/Parole Eligibility.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Families, Children, and Aging Policy. If favorable, re-refer to Judiciary 3. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 16, 2021
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Faircloth, Hardister, Rogers, K. Baker	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jessica Boney Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 424 would eliminate life without parole for juveniles and modify parole eligibility for juveniles sentenced to more than fifteen years imprisonment.*

## BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 424 would establish that a defendant who is convicted of first degree murder, and who was under the age of 18 at the time of the offense, must be sentenced to life imprisonment with parole and be eligible for parole consideration after serving 25 years.

It would also establish that a defendant who was convicted of a crime other than first degree murder, was under the age of 18 at the time of the offense, and sentenced to more than 15 years of imprisonment, is eligible for parole consideration after serving 15 years imprisonment.

All provisions concerning sentencing juveniles to life without parole and related sentencing hearings and considerations of the court would be eliminated.

A defendant eligible for parole consideration under Part 2A would be subject to the conditions and procedures set out in Article 85.

A prisoner who was under the age of 18 at the time of the offense and sentenced under the Fair Sentencing Act would be eligible for parole consideration after completion of 20 years imprisonment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would be effective December 1, 2021, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

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