

Senate Study Bill 309

Conference Committee Text

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1 1 Section 1. Section [902.2](#), Code 1995, is amended by
1 2 striking the section and inserting in lieu thereof the
1 3 following:

1 4 902.2. COMMUTATION PROCEDURE FOR CLASS "A" FELONS.

1 5 A person who has been sentenced to life imprisonment under
1 6 section 902.1, may, once every ten years, make an application
1 7 to the governor requesting that the person's sentence be
1 8 commuted to a term of years. The director of the Iowa
1 9 department of corrections may make a request to the governor
1 10 that a person's sentence be commuted to a term of years at any
1 11 time. Upon receipt of a request for commutation, the governor
1 12 shall send a copy of the request to the Iowa board of parole
1 13 for investigation and recommendations as to whether the person
1 14 should be considered for commutation. The board shall conduct
1 15 an interview of the class "A" felon and shall make a report of
1 16 its findings and recommendations to the governor.

1 17 EXPLANATION

1 18 This bill replaces the current procedure for commutation of
1 19 sentence of life imprisonment. The bill permits inmates to
1 20 make application once every 10 years to the governor for
1 21 commutation. The director of the department of corrections
1 22 may make application for commutation of a person's sentence at
1 23 any time. Once the governor receives the request, the request
1 24 is to be forwarded to the board of parole for investigation
1 25 and recommendations. The board is to submit the investigation
1 26 and recommendations to the governor.

1 27 Currently, a person who is sentenced to life imprisonment
1 28 is to be regularly interviewed by the board of parole, which
1 29 then may make recommendations to the governor for commutation,
1 30 if the board feels that a particular person should be
1 31 considered for release on parole.

1 32 LSB 2593SC 76

1 33 lh/jj/8