

FEB 18 1999

JUDICIARY

HOUSE FILE
BY DODERER

315

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the accrual of good conduct time by inmates
2 sentenced to prison on certain felony offenses.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 315

1 Section 1. Section 903A.2, subsection 1, paragraphs a and
2 b, Code 1999, are amended to read as follows:

3 a. Category "A" sentences are those sentences which are
4 not subject to a maximum accumulation of good conduct time of
5 ~~fifteen~~ twenty-five percent of the total sentence of
6 confinement under section 902.12. To the extent provided in
7 subsection 5, category "A" sentences also include life
8 sentences imposed under section 902.1. An inmate of an
9 institution under the control of the department of corrections
10 who is serving a category "A" sentence is eligible for a
11 reduction of sentence equal to one day for each day of good
12 conduct while committed to one of the department's
13 institutions. In addition, each inmate who is serving a
14 category "A" sentence is eligible for an additional reduction
15 of up to five days per month if the inmate participates
16 satisfactorily in any of the following activities:

- 17 (1) Employment in the institution.
- 18 (2) Iowa state industries.
- 19 (3) An employment program established by the director.
- 20 (4) A treatment program established by the director.
- 21 (5) An inmate educational program approved by the
22 director.

23 b. Category "B" sentences are those sentences which are
24 subject to a maximum accumulation of good conduct time of
25 ~~fifteen~~ twenty-five percent of the total sentence of
26 confinement under section 902.12. An inmate of an institution
27 under the control of the department of corrections who is
28 serving a category "B" sentence is eligible for a reduction of
29 sentence equal to ~~fifteen~~ twenty-five eighty-fifths of a day
30 for each day of good conduct by the inmate.

31 EXPLANATION

32 This bill amends Code section 903A.2, regarding the accrual
33 of good conduct time for inmates. The bill provides that an
34 inmate sentenced to prison for an offense under Code section
35 902.12 may accrue a maximum of 25 percent reduction of the

1 sentence for good conduct. Offenses listed under Code section
 2 902.12 include murder in the second degree, attempted murder,
 3 sexual abuse in the second degree, kidnapping in the second
 4 degree, robbery in the first or second degree, and certain
 5 vehicular homicide offenses. Under current law, an inmate
 6 sentenced to prison for an offense under Code section 902.12,
 7 may accrue a maximum of 15 percent reduction of a sentence
 8 based upon good conduct.

9 An inmate sentenced to prison on other felonies, except a
 10 class "A" offense, may accrue a 50 percent reduction of a
 11 sentence for good conduct, plus other reductions in the
 12 sentence if the inmate participates in certain programming.

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