

<b>LFC Requester:</b>	<b>Scott Sanchez</b>
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO**

**[AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov](http://AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov) and email to [billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov](mailto:billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov)**

*(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)*

**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

*{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*

**Date Prepared:** 01/23/2025 *Check all that apply:*  
**Bill Number:** SB 17 Original  Correction   
 Amendment  Substitute

**Sponsor:** Leo Jaramillo **Agency Name and Code**  
**Short Title:** Parole & Parole Board Changes **Number:** 760  
**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Person Writing:** Roberta Cohen  
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**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
0	0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
0	0	0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:  
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

### **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

#### **BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: SB17 Amends the factors affecting parole of an inmate sentenced to life imprisonment. Removes consent of the Senate for Parole Board appointments and amends Board member removal process. Requires conscientious scheduling of hearings in homicide cases.

#### **PAROLE IN CASE OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT:**

- When an inmate sentenced to life imprisonment has served 30 years, that shall be construed as the retributive portion of the sentence.
- Consideration for release shall focus on risk and readiness for release as demonstrated by inmate compliance with rules, participation in an educational, vocational, or other program while confined, and whether the inmate has demonstrated maturity, rehabilitation, and fitness to reenter society.
- The Parole Board is to hear from the family or representative of the victim, if they choose to participate, during its consideration of parole, and is also to consider the inmate's relevant criminal history, in addition to the other current requirements.

#### **PAROLE BOARD CHANGES.**

- The 15 members of the Parole Board are appointed by the Governor, but the appointments no longer require the consent of the Senate.
- Members may no longer be removed by the Governor, but the Governor or the Board may commence a proceeding to remove a member for incompetence, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office. The Supreme Court is given jurisdiction over proceedings to remove a Board member. A member may also be impeached pursuant to the state's constitution.

#### **HEARINGS IN CASES OF HOMICIDE.**

The Parole Board shall not schedule a hearing on the anniversary of the birth or death of the person whose death is the basis for the homicide conviction, when practicable.

New Mexico Parole Board is in support of SB 17 as it aims to modernize the parole process, reflect a focus on rehabilitation, societal reintegration, and accountability, while also considering the victims family and public safety.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

**None**

#### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

**None**

#### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

**None**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

**None**

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

**None**

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

**None**

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

**None**

**ALTERNATIVES**

**None**

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

**Status Quo**

**AMENDMENTS**

**None**