

# H.F. 1273

As introduced

Subject Exempting the Board of Pardons from the requirement to hold open

meetings when considering waiver requests

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Date March 28, 2025

### **Overview**

Under current law, a person must wait for five years after a sentence expires or is discharged before applying for a pardon and must wait either five years after a conviction or until one-half of a sentence is complete before applying for a commutation of the sentence. Individuals can apply for a waiver of the waiting period based on a showing of unusual circumstances. When a person applies for a waiver, the Clemency Review Commission can consider the application and make a recommendation to the Board of Pardons without holding a public hearing.

This bill would allow the Board of Pardons to also consider applications for a waiver of the applicable waiting period without holding a public hearing. The bill does not change the requirements that public hearings be held for other actions by the board.

## Summary

#### Section Description

#### 1 Pardon eligibility; waiver.

Exempts the Board of Pardons from the requirement to hold public meetings when considering a request for a waiver of the period a person must wait after the expiration or discharge of a sentence before applying for a pardon.

#### 2 Commuting eligibility.

Exempts the Board of Pardons from the requirement to hold public meetings when considering a request for a waiver of the period a person must wait after the expiration or discharge of a sentence before applying for a commutation.



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