

Presumptive Parole request administratively, allowing more time to be used for the higher risk cases.

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Lisa Menard
Commissioner

A blue ink handwritten signature with a large, sweeping initial 'D' and a horizontal line.

Dean George
Parole Board Chair

State of Vermont
Department of Corrections
NOB 2 South, 280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2000
www.doc.vermont.gov

[phone] 802-241-2442
[phone] 802-241-0000
[fax] 802-241-0020

Agency of Human Services

August 29, 2018

Representative Alice Emmons, Chair
House Committee on Corrections and Institutions
318 Summer St.
Springfield, VT 05156

Dear Representative Emmons:

During the legislative session you asked Parole Board Chair, Dean George and I to discuss the possibility of some form of presumptive parole. The Parole Board members initially did not see the need for this status, believing Supervised Community Sentence was an appropriate alternative. However, after further discussion we have been able to agree that this concept merits further review and felt that the following was a reasonable approach to work towards a true presumptive parole model:

Understanding there may be a desire to consider some type of Presumptive Parole in Vermont, the Parole Board would support a cooperative Presumptive Parole Process evaluation. The fundamental premise being there should continue to be some type of Independent review of any Parole request by the Parole Board. After the review the Parole Board would complete its responsibility by processing a parole agreement and assigning conditions for Parole specific to the risks related to the offender.

Step 1 (as outlined in the DOC proposal) for offenders meeting the criteria established for non-listed offenders would be an approval for Presumptive Parole by the DOC staff. Documentation for Presumptive Parole would then be forwarded to the Parole Board Office.

Step 2 would provide for an administrative Parole Board review of the Presumptive Parole documents, followed by the creation of a parole agreement with conditions appropriate for the offender to be returned to DOC staff.

Benefits: many low risk offenders are employed and would benefit by not having to travel and attend a parole hearing during normal business hours. If the selected offenders are doing well and have no disciplinary, programming, or victim issues, the Parole Board would support the

