

Date of Hearing: May 13, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 2232 (Patterson) – As Amended April 23, 2026

Policy Committee: Public Safety

Vote: 9 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) to publish an annual report on the advance-parole consideration hearing process.

Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Requires BPH, in coordination with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), to collect and publish annual data regarding requests to advance-parole consideration hearing dates.
- 2) Requires BPH to submit a report to the Legislature by March 1, 2027 and annually thereafter, and make the report publicly available on its internet website.
- 3) Requires BPH, for each request to advance a parole consideration hearing date, to maintain a written summary of the decision — made available to the incarcerated person, the victim, and the district attorney's office — including the basis for approval or denial and the primary factors considered.
- 4) Sunsets on January 1, 2032.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Ongoing cost pressures (General Fund), likely in the low hundreds of thousands of dollars to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) for data collection, written decision summaries for each advancement request, and annual report production through fiscal year 2031-32 for data not currently captured. To the extent existing systems are insufficient to capture or report the required information, CDCR anticipates incurring one-time information technology costs to modify existing systems or develop new data tracking and reporting functionality.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

Victims deserve stability and predictability in the parole process. Under current law, parole hearings can be repeatedly advanced after a denial, forcing victims and their families to relive traumatic events

sooner than expected. AB 2232 reinforces the timelines approved by voters, prevents repeated attempts to circumvent parole denials, and strengthens confidence in the parole system for victims, families, and the public.

- 2) **Background.** BPH was created in 2005, succeeding the Board of Prison Terms, and is the state agency responsible for determining parole suitability and setting release dates for individuals found suitable for release. BPH holds a parole suitability hearing one year before a person's minimum eligible parole date and must grant parole unless public safety requires further incarceration. When parole is denied, Marsy's Law (Proposition 9, 2008) requires the next hearing to be scheduled three, five, seven, 10, or 15 years out, with a default of 15 years and a presumption against shorter periods. Marsy's Law also authorized BPH to advance a hearing — on its own motion or by an incarcerated person's petition — when changed circumstances or new information establish a reasonable likelihood that public and victim safety do not require the additional period of incarceration. BPH currently conducts administrative reviews of certain three-year denials and accepts petitions to advance once every three years. This bill requires BPH to publish an annual report on the advance parole consideration hearing process, including the volume and outcomes of advancement requests, whether advancement was initiated by BPH or by petition, the criteria relied on, rehabilitation metrics, victim notification and input, and outcomes of advanced hearings. It also requires BPH to maintain written summaries of each advancement decision and make them available to the incarcerated person, the victim or next of kin, and the district attorney.

Analysis Prepared by: Shiran Zohar / APPR. / (916) 319-2081