

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 862

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HOVIS.

0277H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 558.019, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to minimum prison terms.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 558.019, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 558.019, to read as follows:

558.019. 1. This section shall not be construed to affect the powers of the governor under Article IV, Section 7, of the Missouri Constitution. This statute shall not affect those provisions of section 565.020 or section 566.125, which set minimum terms of sentences, or the provisions of section 559.115, relating to probation.

2. ~~[The provisions of subsections 2 to 5 of this section shall only be applicable to the offenses contained in sections 565.021, 565.023, 565.024, 565.027, 565.050, 565.052, 565.054, 565.072, 565.073, 565.074, 565.090, 565.110, 565.115, 565.120, 565.153, 565.156, 565.225, 565.300, 566.030, 566.031, 566.032, 566.034, 566.060, 566.061, 566.062, 566.064, 566.067, 566.068, 566.069, 566.071, 566.083, 566.086, 566.100, 566.101, 566.103, 566.111, 566.115, 566.145, 566.151, 566.153, 566.203, 566.206, 566.209, 566.210, 566.211, 566.215, 568.030, 568.045, 568.060, 568.065, 568.175, 569.040, 569.160, 570.023, 570.025, 570.030 when punished as a class A, B, or C felony, 570.145 when punished as a class A or B felony, 570.223 when punished as a class B or C felony, 571.020, 571.030, 571.070, 573.023, 573.025, 573.035, 573.037, 573.200, 573.205, 574.070, 574.080, 574.115, 575.030, 575.150, 575.153, 575.155, 575.157, 575.200 when punished as a class A felony, 575.210, 575.230 when punished as a class B felony, 575.240 when punished as a class B felony, 576.070, 576.080, 577.010, 577.013, 577.078, 577.703, 577.706, 579.065, and 579.068 when punished~~

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 as a class A or B felony. For the purposes of this section, "prison commitment" means and is
19 the receipt by the department of corrections of an offender after sentencing. For purposes of
20 this section, prior prison commitments to the department of corrections shall not include an
21 offender's first incarceration prior to release on probation under section 217.362 or 559.115.]
22 Other provisions of the law to the contrary notwithstanding, any offender who has been found
23 guilty **after August 28, 2025**, of a felony other than a dangerous felony as defined in section
24 556.061 and is committed to the department of corrections shall be required to serve the
25 following minimum prison terms:

26 (1) If the offender has one **or two** previous [~~prison commitment to the department of~~
27 ~~corrections for a felony offense~~] **convictions for felonies unrelated to the present offense**,
28 the minimum prison term [~~which~~] **that** the offender [~~must~~] **shall** serve shall be [~~forty~~] **fifty**
29 percent of his or her sentence or until the offender attains seventy years of age, and has served
30 at least [~~thirty~~] **forty** percent of the sentence imposed, whichever occurs first;

31 (2) [~~If the offender has two previous prison commitments to the department of~~
32 ~~corrections for felonies unrelated to the present offense, the minimum prison term which the~~
33 ~~offender must serve shall be fifty percent of his or her sentence or until the offender attains~~
34 ~~seventy years of age, and has served at least forty percent of the sentence imposed, whichever~~
35 ~~occurs first;~~

36 (3) If the offender has three or more previous [~~prison commitments to the department~~
37 ~~of corrections~~] **convictions** for felonies unrelated to the present offense, the minimum prison
38 term [~~which~~] **that** the offender [~~must~~] **shall** serve shall be eighty percent of his or her
39 sentence or until the offender attains seventy years of age, and has served at least forty
40 percent of the sentence imposed, whichever occurs first.

41 3. Other provisions of the law to the contrary notwithstanding, any offender who has
42 been found guilty of a dangerous felony as defined in section 556.061 and is committed to the
43 department of corrections shall be required to serve a minimum prison term of eighty-five
44 percent of the sentence imposed by the court or until the offender attains seventy years of age,
45 and has served at least forty percent of the sentence imposed, whichever occurs first.

46 4. For the purpose of determining the minimum prison term to be served, the
47 following calculations shall apply:

48 (1) A sentence of life shall be calculated to be thirty years;

49 (2) Any sentence either alone or in the aggregate with other consecutive sentences for
50 offenses committed at or near the same time which is over seventy-five years shall be
51 calculated to be seventy-five years.

52 5. For purposes of this section, the term "minimum prison term" shall mean time
53 required to be served by the offender before he or she is eligible for parole, conditional
54 release or other early release by the department of corrections.

55 6. An offender who was convicted of, or pled guilty to, a felony offense other than
56 those offenses listed in subsection 2 of this section prior to August 28, 2019, shall no longer
57 be subject to the minimum prison term provisions under subsection 2 of this section, and shall
58 be eligible for parole, conditional release, or other early release by the department of
59 corrections according to the rules and regulations of the department.

60 7. (1) A sentencing advisory commission is hereby created to consist of eleven
61 members. One member shall be appointed by the speaker of the house. One member shall be
62 appointed by the president pro tem of the senate. One member shall be the director of the
63 department of corrections. Six members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the
64 governor from among the following: the public defender commission; private citizens; a
65 private member of the Missouri Bar; the board of probation and parole; and a prosecutor.
66 Two members shall be appointed by the supreme court, one from a metropolitan area and one
67 from a rural area. All members shall be appointed to a four-year term. All members of the
68 sentencing commission appointed prior to August 28, 1994, shall continue to serve on the
69 sentencing advisory commission at the pleasure of the governor.

70 (2) The commission shall study sentencing practices in the circuit courts throughout
71 the state for the purpose of determining whether and to what extent disparities exist among
72 the various circuit courts with respect to the length of sentences imposed and the use of
73 probation for offenders convicted of the same or similar offenses and with similar criminal
74 histories. The commission shall also study and examine whether and to what extent
75 sentencing disparity among economic and social classes exists in relation to the sentence of
76 death and if so, the reasons therefor, if sentences are comparable to other states, if the length
77 of the sentence is appropriate, and the rate of rehabilitation based on sentence. It shall
78 compile statistics, examine cases, draw conclusions, and perform other duties relevant to the
79 research and investigation of disparities in death penalty sentencing among economic and
80 social classes.

81 (3) The commission shall study alternative sentences, prison work programs, work
82 release, home-based incarceration, probation and parole options, and any other programs and
83 report the feasibility of these options in Missouri.

84 (4) The governor shall select a chairperson who shall call meetings of the commission
85 as required or permitted pursuant to the purpose of the sentencing commission.

86 (5) The members of the commission shall not receive compensation for their duties
87 on the commission, but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the
88 performance of these duties and for which they are not reimbursed by reason of their other
89 paid positions.

90 (6) The circuit and associate circuit courts of this state, the office of the state courts
91 administrator, the department of public safety, and the department of corrections shall

92 cooperate with the commission by providing information or access to information needed by
93 the commission. The office of the state courts administrator will provide needed staffing
94 resources.

95 8. Courts shall retain discretion to lower or exceed the sentence recommended by the
96 commission as otherwise allowable by law, and to order restorative justice methods, when
97 applicable.

98 9. If the imposition or execution of a sentence is suspended, the court may order any
99 or all of the following restorative justice methods, or any other method that the court finds
100 just or appropriate:

101 (1) Restitution to any victim or a statutorily created fund for costs incurred as a result
102 of the offender's actions;

103 (2) Offender treatment programs;

104 (3) Mandatory community service;

105 (4) Work release programs in local facilities; and

106 (5) Community-based residential and nonresidential programs.

107 10. Pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection 9 of this section, the court may order the
108 assessment and payment of a designated amount of restitution to a county law enforcement
109 restitution fund established by the county commission pursuant to section 50.565. Such
110 contribution shall not exceed three hundred dollars for any charged offense. Any restitution
111 moneys deposited into the county law enforcement restitution fund pursuant to this section
112 shall only be expended pursuant to the provisions of section 50.565.

113 11. A judge may order payment to a restitution fund only if such fund had been
114 created by ordinance or resolution of a county of the state of Missouri prior to sentencing. A
115 judge shall not have any direct supervisory authority or administrative control over any fund
116 to which the judge is ordering a person to make payment.

117 12. A person who fails to make a payment to a county law enforcement restitution
118 fund may not have his or her probation revoked solely for failing to make such payment
119 unless the judge, after evidentiary hearing, makes a finding supported by a preponderance of
120 the evidence that the person either willfully refused to make the payment or that the person
121 willfully, intentionally, and purposefully failed to make sufficient bona fide efforts to acquire
122 the resources to pay.

123 13. Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow the sentencing advisory
124 commission to issue recommended sentences in specific cases pending in the courts of this
125 state.