

CHAPTER 648

(House Bill 602)

AN ACT concerning

**Criminal Procedure - Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy -
Sentencing and Parole**

FOR the purpose of requiring circuit courts at the time of imposing certain sentences to state in open court the minimum time that the defendant must serve before becoming eligible for parole; providing that the statement of minimum parole eligibility is informational and not part of a sentence; ~~repealing a provision concerning use of judicial guidelines; requiring circuit courts to use certain sentencing guidelines, worksheets, and departure forms under certain circumstances; requiring clerks of the circuit courts to send certain records relating to sentences to the State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy; providing that the failure to give certain statements or make certain records concerning sentences does not affect the legality or efficacy of a sentence;~~ authorizing a certain criminal sentence review panel to order a different sentence, including a decrease in a mandatory minimum sentence otherwise required by law under certain circumstances; establishing a State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy; establishing the intent of the General Assembly concerning criminal sentencing; establishing the membership of, appointments to, terms of the members on, and conditions concerning membership on the Commission; providing for the initial terms of appointment for the appointed members of the Commission; providing for certain meetings, rules, and procedures of the Commission; requiring the Commission to hold its first meeting no later than a certain date at the call of the Chairperson; requiring certain State units and local governments and local government units to provide information to and cooperate with the Commission under certain circumstances; providing for the employment of a staff under certain circumstances; requiring the Commission to adopt certain sentencing guidelines under certain circumstances; requiring the sentencing guidelines to contain certain elements; requiring the Commission to adopt guidelines concerning corrections options; requiring the Commission to submit an annual report to the General Assembly on or before a certain date; requiring the annual report to contain certain information; requiring the Commission to collect sentencing guideline worksheets and to automate the information in the worksheets under certain circumstances; ~~establishing procedures and requirements for changes or modifications to the sentencing guideline matrices by the Commission~~ requiring the Commission to adopt certain sentencing guidelines as regulations subject to the Regulatory Review and Evaluation Act under certain circumstances; requiring the Commission to conduct certain training, make certain consultations, and prepare certain statements; requiring the Commission to use a certain correctional population simulation model and to make the model available to certain persons under certain circumstances; establishing that certain inmates are not eligible for parole until they have served a certain portion of their aggregate sentences under certain circumstances; ~~requiring the~~