

**SB240 ENGROSSED**



1 SB240  
2 I3SXG66-2  
3 By Senator Barfoot  
4 RFD: Judiciary  
5 First Read: 03-Feb-26



**SB240 Engrossed**

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A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to paroles; to provide that an inmate may attend his or her parole hearing remotely and provide parameters for remote parole hearings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) (1) The Board of Pardons and Paroles shall allow an inmate to participate in his or her parole hearing via telephone, video conference, or any other similar communications system that allows the inmate to interact with the members of the Board of Pardons and Paroles. The board shall give the victim, victim's family, and others representing the victim the option to see or hear the inmate's statement.

(2) The board shall allow any other individual participating in a parole hearing, including, but not limited to, the victim, the victim's family, a crime victim advocate, a law enforcement officer, or a prosecutor, to participate in a parole hearing via telephone, video conference, or any other similar communications system.

(3) An inmate may waive his or her rights provided under this subsection.



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29 (b) Unless the victim or the victim's family chooses  
30 otherwise, the board shall not allow an inmate to see, hear,  
31 or otherwise interact with victims, victims' families, or  
32 crime victim advocates who address the board or attend the  
33 hearing.

34 (c) If the communications system fails or is in any way  
35 interrupted during a hearing, the board shall suspend the  
36 hearing until communication is reestablished.

37 (d) The board shall only provide access to the hearing  
38 to individuals permitted to speak pursuant to rules  
39 established by the board. Individuals authorized to speak may  
40 speak by telephone, video conference, or any other similar  
41 communications system. The board shall use video conferencing  
42 when that communications system is available; otherwise, the  
43 board may choose any other authorized communication method.

44 (e) The Department of Corrections shall procure a  
45 telephone, video conference, or other communications system to  
46 allow each inmate to participate in his or her parole hearing  
47 via the approved telephone, video conference, or any other  
48 similar communications system. The communications system shall  
49 allow the inmate to interact with the members of the board at  
50 the parole hearing. The department shall cooperate with the  
51 board in the implementation of this act.

52 Section 2. This act shall become effective on March 1,  
53 2027.



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56 Senate

57 Read for the first time and referred .....03-Feb-26  
58 to the Senate committee on Judiciary  
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60 Read for the second time and placed .....12-Feb-26  
61 on the calendar:  
62 0 amendments  
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64 Read for the third time and passed .....24-Feb-26  
65 as amended  
66 Yeas 33  
67 Nays 0  
68 Abstains 0  
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Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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