

SB240 ENROLLED



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



SB240 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

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

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

24 (b) Unless the victim or the victim's family chooses
25 otherwise, the board shall not allow an inmate to see, hear,
26 or otherwise interact with victims, victims' families, or
27 crime victim advocates who address the board or attend the
28 hearing.



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

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

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

47 Section 2. This act shall become effective on March 1,
48 2027.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB240

Senate 24-Feb-26

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 07-Apr-26

By: Senator Barfoot