

HB 1624 -- Clemency in Death Penalty Cases

Sponsor: Ellinger

This bill specifies that any person seeking pardon, commutation of sentence, or reprieve from the death penalty must be entitled to the assistance of legal counsel and a hearing before the full Board of Probation and Parole within the Department of Corrections. Factors that the board must consider when granting the application for pardon, commutation of sentence, or reprieve are specified. If the board recommends that a person be pardoned, a sentence of death be commuted, or a reprieve be issued, the person must not be executed unless the Governor issues an order explaining why the board's recommendation is not being followed.