REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
Pursuant to P.A. 121 of 2024
Article 2, Section 504
Parole Board Decisions Report – 4th Qtr.

Section 504: *The department shall issue quarterly reports for the previous 4 quarters detailing outcomes of prisoners who have been reviewed for parole. The report shall include all of the following:*

a) How many prisoners in each quarter were reviewed.
b) How many prisoners were granted parole.
c) How many prisoners were denied parole.
d) How many parole decisions were deferred.
e) The distribution of the total number of prisoners reviewed during that quarter grouped by whether the prisoners had been interviewed for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, or more than sixth time.
f) The number of paroles granted, denied, or deferred for each of the parole guideline scores of low, average, and high.
g) The reason for denying or deferring parole.

The Michigan Parole Board is the only paroling authority for felony offenders committed to the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Corrections. That Parole Board gains jurisdiction of a case when a prisoner serving a non-life sentence has served his or her minimum sentence, less any good time or disciplinary credits the prisoner may have earned.

The Parole Board is divided into three member panels. The decision whether to grant or deny parole is determined by majority vote of a Parole Board panel. Cases involving a life sentence must be decided by a majority vote of the full Parole Board. If an offender is denied parole, a date is selected for the next Parole Board review.

The data in this report will follow its own respective date ranges to allow for the settling of data into the system and to ensure accurate analysis of the data. Below is how we have chosen to divide each report:

- January report: September – November
- April report: December – February
- July report: March – May
- October report: June – August

Table 1 breaks down the total number of hearings that have been granted parole, denied parole and deferred. It also gives the distribution of the number of hearings grouped by whether the prisoners had been interviewed for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth or more than sixth time.

Table 1 – Hearing Number by Decision Type

		Hearing							Total
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	More than 6th	
Sep '24 - Nov '24	Grant	1,201	393	123	55	21	11	15	1,819
	Deny	366	271	149	92	47	43	102	1,070
	Defer	907	83	59	37	17	13	21	1,137
	Total	**2,474**	**747**	**331**	**184**	**85**	**67**	**138**	**4,026**
Dec '24 - Feb '25	Grant	1,106	309	118	39	22	9	31	1,634
	Deny	268	216	138	79	43	27	69	840
	Defer	772	87	49	25	8	8	23	972
	Total	**2,146**	**612**	**305**	**143**	**73**	**44**	**123**	**3,446**
Mar '25 - May '25	Grant	1,226	370	131	68	33	9	32	1,869
	Deny	343	277	162	76	62	22	96	1,038
	Defer	1,004	95	32	33	14	11	16	1,205
	Total	**2,573**	**742**	**325**	**177**	**109**	**42**	**144**	**4,112**
Jun '25 - Aug '25	Grant	1,112	342	117	46	21	7	22	1,667
	Deny	261	233	125	80	60	38	98	895
	Defer	876	92	35	20	9	5	20	1,057
	Total	**2,249**	**667**	**277**	**146**	**90**	**50**	**140**	**3,619**
Total	Grant	4,645	1,414	489	208	97	36	100	6,989
	Deny	1,238	997	574	327	212	130	365	3,843
	Defer	3,559	357	175	115	48	37	80	4,371
	Total	**9,442**	**2,768**	**1,238**	**650**	**357**	**203**	**545**	**15,203**

The parole guidelines score is a numerical scoring system designed to assist in applying objective criteria to any decision made by the Parole Board. Information used in the calculation of the parole guideline score includes the prisoner's current offense, the prior criminal record, institutional conduct and program performance, age, mental health status and statistical risk.

Table 2 shows the number of paroles granted, denied or deferred for each of the parole guideline scores of low, middle and high.

Table 2 – Number of Paroles Granted, Denied or Deferred by Parole Guideline Description

		Parole Guideline (PG) Description			Total
		Low	Average	High	
Sep '24 - Nov '24	Grant	49	862	874	1,785
	Deny	291	596	182	1,069
	Defer	104	688	339	1,131
	Total	**444**	**2,146**	**1,395**	**3,985**
Dec '24 - Feb '25	Grant	46	715	787	1,548
	Deny	255	469	116	840
	Defer	71	554	332	957
	Total	**372**	**1,738**	**1,235**	**3,345**
Mar '25 - May '25	Grant	58	841	887	1,786
	Deny	279	612	147	1,038
	Defer	68	650	470	1,188
	Total	**405**	**2,103**	**1,504**	**4,012**
Jun '25 - Aug '25	Grant	48	679	868	1,595
	Deny	263	486	145	894
	Defer	66	559	404	1,029
	Total	**377**	**1,724**	**1,417**	**3,518**
Total	Grant	201	3,097	3,416	6,714
	Deny	1,088	2,163	590	3,841
	Defer	309	2,451	1,545	4,305
	Total	**1,598**	**7,711**	**5,551**	**14,860**
SAI Grants					241
No Parole Guideline Score					102
Total					**15,203**

Table 3 shows the typical reasons for denying or deferring parole.

Table 3 – Decision Type by Reason

Reasons for Denying or Deferring	Decision Type				Total	%
	Deny	%	Defer	%		
Current Therapy or Psychological Report	0	0.00%	2,966	67.86%	2,966	36.11%
Further Discussion	0	0.00%	572	13.09%	572	6.96%
Investigation	0	0.00%	768	17.57%	768	9.35%
Lack of Effort	2	0.05%	0	0.00%	2	0.02%
Risk to Community	3,840	99.95%	0	0.00%	3,840	46.76%
Satisfactory Placement	0	0.00%	65	1.49%	65	0.79%
Total	**3,842**	**100%**	**4,371**	**100%**	**8,213**	**100%**