

**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE  
**Governor of the State of Texas**

41-3213

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TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 1206 as passed by the Eighty-first Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

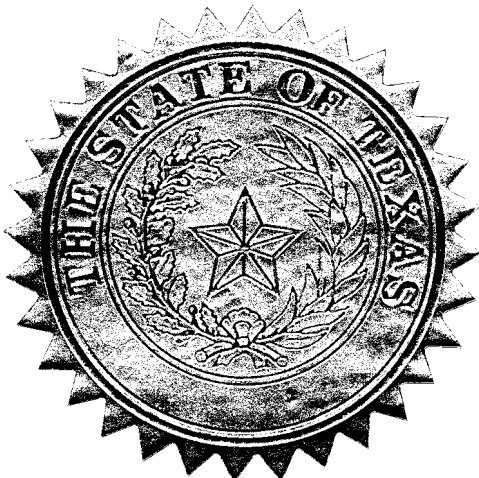
Senate Bill No. 1206 would fundamentally alter the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Pardons and Paroles (Board) and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) by allowing TDCJ to release an inmate prior to the date established by the Board for release on parole. Senate Bill No. 1206 allows TDCJ to determine that the inmate has successfully completed a rehabilitation program and has met certain conditions for release on parole as specified by the Board.

TDCJ's primary function is to manage inmates in state prisons, state jails and private correctional facilities, not to decide when to release those inmates.

I do not think these changes are necessary, and I am wary of the manner in which such changes would be accomplished. Reducing appropriations to TDCJ through a rider in the General Appropriations Act would put TDCJ under budgetary pressure when determining whether inmates have successfully completed rehabilitation programs and satisfied their conditions of release. Additionally, the cost savings estimates of this bill are calculated on the basis of a per diem cost, while most related operational costs for TDCJ are fixed.

But because I appreciate the goal of Senate Bill No. 1206 to not hold inmates longer than necessary, I am directing the Board and TDCJ to work together to ensure that offenders are not held for extended periods after successfully completing a rehabilitation program required by the Board as a condition for parole. They must set up procedures that provide for TDCJ to notify the Board of the successful completion of parole release requirements so that the Board may act to effect the release to parole.

Since the Legislature by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 19th day of June, 2009.

*Rick Perry*  
RICK PERRY  
Governor of Texas

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
O'CLOCK

JUN 19 2009

ATTESTED BY:

  
COBY SHORTER, III  
Deputy Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
2 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 19 2009