A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Crimes of Violence – Parole
(Stopping Dangerous and Violent Criminals Act of 2021)

FOR the purpose of altering the portion of a sentence that must be served before a certain inmate convicted of a certain violent crime committed on or after a certain date can be paroled; and generally relating to parole.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Correctional Services
Section 7–301(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2017 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Correctional Services

7–301.

(c) (1) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph[.]:

1. an inmate who has been sentenced to the Division of Correction after being convicted of a violent crime committed on or after October 1, 1994, AND BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2021, is not eligible for parole until the inmate has served the greater of:

[1.] A. one–half of the inmate’s aggregate sentence for violent crimes; or
[2.] B. one–fourth of the inmate’s total aggregate sentence; AND

2. AN INMATE WHO HAS BEEN SENTENCED TO THE
DIVISION OF CORRECTION AFTER BEING CONVICTED OF A VIOLENT CRIME
COMMITTED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2021, IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE UNTIL
THE INMATE HAS SERVED THE GREATER OF:

A. 90% OF THE INMATE’S AGGREGATE SENTENCE FOR
VIOLENT CRIMES; OR

B. ONE–FOURTH OF THE INMATE’S TOTAL AGGREGATE
SENTENCE.

(ii) 1. An inmate who has been sentenced to the Division of
Correction after being convicted of a violent crime committed on or after October 1, 1994,
AND BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2021, and who has been sentenced to more than one term of
imprisonment, including a term during which the inmate is eligible for parole and a term
during which the inmate is not eligible for parole, is not eligible for parole until the inmate
has served the greater of:

[1.] A. one–half of the inmate’s aggregate sentence for
violent crimes;

[2.] B. one–fourth of the inmate’s total aggregate sentence;

or

[3.] C. a period equal to the term during which the inmate
is not eligible for parole.

2. AN INMATE WHO HAS BEEN SENTENCED TO THE
DIVISION OF CORRECTION AFTER BEING CONVICTED OF A VIOLENT CRIME
COMMITTED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2021, AND WHO HAS BEEN SENTENCED TO
MORE THAN ONE TERM OF IMPRISONMENT, INCLUDING A TERM DURING WHICH THE
INMATE IS ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE AND A TERM DURING WHICH THE INMATE IS NOT
ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE, IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE UNTIL THE INMATE HAS
SERVED THE GREATER OF:

A. 90% OF THE INMATE’S AGGREGATE SENTENCE FOR
VIOLENT CRIMES;

B. ONE–FOURTH OF THE INMATE’S TOTAL AGGREGATE
SENTENCE; OR
C. A PERIOD EQUAL TO THE TERM DURING WHICH THE INMATE IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE.

(2) An inmate who is serving a term of imprisonment for a violent crime committed on or after October 1, 1994, shall receive an administrative review of the inmate’s progress in the correctional facility after the inmate has served the greater of:

(i) one-fourth of the inmate’s aggregate sentence; or

(ii) if the inmate is serving a term of imprisonment that includes a mandatory term during which the inmate is not eligible for parole, a period equal to the term during which the inmate is not eligible for parole.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.