

Dear All,

I am writing to urge you to revise the rules governing the criteria for releasing inmates who are eligible for parole.

Currently (and historically) the Parole Board denies parole to far too many applicants. Many, if not most, are denied because of the "nature of the crime". The inmate can never change the nature of the crime, the only thing he can change is himself. Rehabilitation is possible and that should be the standard for determining parole.

Since 2010 I have been a supervisor of the extension courses that Criminon offers. Criminon is a non-profit seeking to help inmates reform so that they can be a constructive asset to society.

Time and time again, we have had students come up for parole and are given another two year hit, no matter what they have done to improve themselves. Some of these men committed crimes when they were teenagers and twenty years later, they are still imprisoned, despite an impressive prison record. This is punishment, not justice. This needs to be changed, and I am hoping the Parole Board will look for changes an inmate has made in his life during incarceration rather than the "original crime," which can never be changed.

Please revise the proposed rules so that they actually reflect that rehabilitation is possible and that those deserving of parole actually can attain it.

Sincerely,

Richard Kuhn