

SENATE, No. 855

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 26, 1996

By Senator BENNETT

1 AN ACT concerning prison sentencing and supplementing P.L.1979,  
2 c.441.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "No Early  
8 Release Act."

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10 2. a. Notwithstanding any commutation credits allowed for good  
11 behavior and credits earned for diligent application to work and other  
12 institutional assignments, or any other provision of law to the contrary,  
13 an inmate sentenced for a crime of the first or second degree involving  
14 violence to the custody of the Department of Corrections shall not be  
15 eligible for parole until the inmate has served not less than 85 percent  
16 of the court-ordered term of incarceration.

17 b. The provisions of subsection a. of this section shall not reduce  
18 the time that must be served before eligibility for parole by an inmate  
19 sentenced to a mandatory minimum period of incarceration.

20 c. The Parole Board shall promulgate rules and regulations  
21 necessary to carry out the purposes this act pursuant to the  
22 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
23 seq.).

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25 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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30 This bill creates the "No Early Release Act" which supplements the  
31 "Parole Act of 1979," and is intended to increase prison time for  
32 offenders committing the most serious crimes in society. The bill  
33 requires that any person convicted of committing a first or second  
34 degree crime involving violence serve a minimum of 85 percent of his  
35 court-ordered term of incarceration, regardless of the number of

1 commutation credits, work credits, or minimum custody credits  
2 earned.

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7 Requires persons convicted of certain crimes to serve at least 85% of  
8 the term of incarceration.