

House Research Act Summary

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TOPIC: Conditional Release of Sex Offenders

Analyst: Jeff Diebel

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This bill amends the conditional release language in a variety of statutes governing sex offenders. All of the changes make it clear that a sex offender's mandatory conditional release term begins when the offender is released from prison and not after the offender completes his entire sentence (prison plus supervised release).

This bill is intended to address the ruling in *Peterson v. Fabian*, 784 N.W.2d 843 (MN.Ct.App.2010). In the *Fabian* case, the Minnesota Court of Appeals held that a mandatory conditional release term imposed by statute upon a sex offender runs consecutively to the offender's supervised release term.

By specifying that an offender's conditional release term begins when the offender is released from prison, the law will empower the Commissioner of Corrections to detain the offender beyond the expiration of his sentence if he violates his terms of conditional release.