

SUBJECT: Expanding eligibility for reduction of community supervision

COMMITTEE: Corrections — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 7 ayes — Herrero, Kacal, V. Jones, R. Lopez, Murr, Swanson, Toth
0 nays
2 absent — Allen, Sherman

WITNESSES: For — Robert Featherston, Bexar County Felony Veterans Treatment Court (*Registered, but did not testify*: Lauren Johnson, ACLU of Texas; Maggie Luna, Statewide Leadership Council; Charlie Malouff, Texas C.U.R.E., Inc; Justin Martinez, Texas Center for Justice and Equity; Amite Dominick, Texas Prisons Community Advocates; Renee Monroe, Tx CURE Inc; Mitch Fuller, Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Texas; Manya Blaisdell; Eve Margolis; Thomas Parkinson)
Against — None

BACKGROUND: Some have suggested that certain individuals who have successfully completed a veterans treatment court program should be eligible for a reduction or termination of community supervision.

DIGEST: CSHB 5177 would extend eligibility for a reduction or termination of a community supervision period to a defendant who was placed on community supervision for certain offenses if the defendant successfully completed a veterans treatment court program and met other requirements. Eligible offenses would include:

- driving while intoxicated;
- driving while intoxicated with a child passenger;
- flying while intoxicated;
- boating while intoxicated;
- assembling or operating an amusement ride while intoxicated;

- intoxication assault; or
- intoxication manslaughter.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023, and would apply only to person who was placed on community supervision for an offense committed on or after the effective date of the bill.