

RESOLUTION NO. 2010- 40

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO APPROVE SB 200/HB 261, AMENDING SECTIONS 947.16, 947.174, AND 947.1745, F.S.; EXTENDING FROM 5 TO 7 YEARS THE PERIOD BETWEEN PAROLE INTERVIEW DATES FOR INMATES CONVICTED OF VIOLATING SPECIFIED PROVISIONS OR SERVING A MINIMUM SENTENCE UNDER A SPECIFIC PROVISION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, parole is a discretionary prison release mechanism administered by the Florida Parole Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, an inmate who is granted parole is allowed to serve the remainder of his or her prison sentence outside of confinement; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no parole eligibility for any crime committed on or after October 1, 1995; and

**WHEREAS**, there are more than 5,000 Florida inmates still eligible for parole consideration; including, with certain exceptions, inmates convicted of murder and sexual battery; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 200/HB 261 would extend the period between parole interview dates from 5 to 7 years for inmates convicted of murder, attempted murder, sexual battery, or attempted sexual battery, or for inmates serving a 25 year minimum mandatory sentence; and

**WHEREAS**, approving SB 200/HB 261 would result in the Florida Parole Commission being required to meet less frequently to consider whether to grant parole to such inmates; and

**WHEREAS**, judges, prosecutors, and law enforcement officers would not have to expend resources to attend or provide input to the parole hearings as frequently; and

**WHEREAS**, victims of crimes, and families of such victims undergo significant emotional and often financial hardship for the purposes of preparing for, attending, and recovering from such parole hearings.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that we hereby express our request and recommendation for approval of SB 200/HB 261.

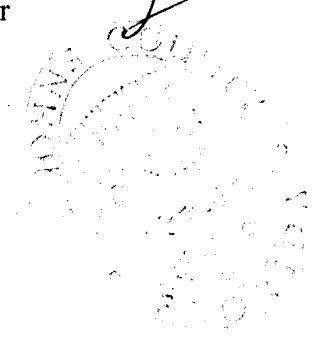
**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2010.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: *Ron Sanchez*  
Ron Sanchez, Chair

**ATTEST: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk**

By: *Pam Halteman*  
Deputy Clerk



Effective Date: 2/16/10

Rendition Date: 2/18/10