ENROLLED, An Act,

To provide for the restoration of voting rights for certain persons who fulfill the conditions of the sentence or conditions required by the state Board of Pardons and Paroles; to provide retroactive application; and to specifically repeal Section 17-3-10 of the Code of Alabama 1975.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) Article 2 of Chapter 22 of Title 15 of the Code of Alabama of 1975, or any other law to the contrary notwithstanding, any person who has lost his or her right to vote by reason of conviction in a state or federal court, except convictions for impeachment, murder, rape in any degree, child molestation, sodomy in any degree, sexual abuse in any degree, incest, sexual torture, enticing a child to enter a vehicle for immoral purposes, soliciting a child by computer, production of obscene matter involving a minor, production of obscene matter, parents or guardians permitting children to engage in obscene matter, possession of obscene matter, possession with intent to distribute child pornography, or treason, who has been released, pardoned, or paroled shall automatically be restored the right to vote upon satisfactorily fulfilling any sentence, including restitution or other condition, if any, imposed by the court, or the state Board of Pardons and Paroles.
(b) The Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles shall provide the former probationer, parolee, or inmate, as the case may be, within 60 days of successfully completing receiving a request after the successful completion of a sentence, by release, pardon, or completion of probation or parole, with a Certificate of Voter Registration Eligibility, which the person may present to the registrar of the county in which the person resides, and which will enable the person to register in person as an elector.

(c) The restoration of rights the right to register to vote provided for in this section shall apply to any person released, pardoned, or paroled prior to the effective date of this section b above, who satisfies the requirements of this section b above, upon the person submitting a letter to requesting of the Board of Pardons and Paroles requesting the restoration of his or her voting rights. The board may develop a standard form for the letter containing space for the inclusion of necessary information and may distribute the form upon request. The Board's action pursuant to this statute shall occur within 90 days for cases applicable to this section and shall not restore any right other than the right to register to vote.

(d) This section, where possible, shall be construed in pari materia with Article 2 of Chapter 22 of Title 15 of the Code of Alabama 1975. The prerequisites of
sections 15–22–23, 15–22–36, and 15–23–79, subsection (b) are not applicable to Board action in relation to this Act.

Section 2. The provisions of this act are severable. If any part of this act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, that declaration shall not affect the part which remains.

Section 3. All laws or parts of laws which conflict with this act, including, but not limited to, Section 17-3-10, Code of Alabama 1975, are repealed.

Section 4. This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor, or upon its otherwise becoming a law.
Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives
I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was passed by the House 06-MAY-03.

Greg Pappas
Clerk

Senate  16-JUN-03  Passed