

## HOUSE BILL NO. 389

INTRODUCED BY GIBSON

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING THAT WHEN A JUDGE IMPOSES A TERM OF INCARCERATION IN A STATE PRISON, THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS SHALL DESIGNATE THE STATE PRISON IN WHICH THE PERSON WILL BE PLACED; AMENDING SECTION 46-18-201, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 46-18-201, MCA, is amended to read:

**"46-18-201. Sentences that may be imposed.** (1) (a) Whenever a person has been found guilty of an offense upon a verdict of guilty or a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, a sentencing judge may defer imposition of sentence, except as otherwise specifically provided by statute, for a period:

(i) not exceeding 1 year for a misdemeanor or for a period not exceeding 3 years for a felony; or

(ii) not exceeding 2 years for a misdemeanor or for a period not exceeding 6 years for a felony if a financial obligation is imposed as a condition of sentence for either the misdemeanor or the felony, regardless of whether any other conditions are imposed.

(b) Except as provided in 46-18-222, imposition of sentence in a felony case may not be deferred in the case of an offender who has been convicted of a felony on a prior occasion, whether or not the sentence was imposed, imposition of the sentence was deferred, or execution of the sentence was suspended.

(2) Whenever a person has been found guilty of an offense upon a verdict of guilty or a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, a sentencing judge may suspend execution of sentence, except as otherwise specifically provided by statute, for a period up to the maximum sentence allowed or for a period of 6 months, whichever is greater, for each particular offense.

(3) Whenever a person has been found guilty of an offense upon a verdict of guilty or a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, a sentencing judge may impose a sentence that may include:

(a) a fine as provided by law for the offense;

(b) payment of costs, as provided in 46-18-232, or payment of costs of court-appointed counsel as provided in 46-8-113;

- 1 (c) a term of incarceration, as provided in Title 45 for the offense, at a county detention center or at a  
2 state prison, as provided in Title 45, for the offense to be designated by the department of corrections;
- 3 (d) commitment of:
- 4 (i) an offender not referred to in subsection (3)(d)(ii) to the department of corrections, with a  
5 recommendation for placement in an appropriate correctional facility or program; however, all but the first 5 years  
6 of the commitment to the department of corrections must be suspended; or
- 7 (ii) a youth transferred to district court under 41-5-206 and found guilty in the district court of an offense  
8 enumerated in 41-5-206 to the department of corrections for a period determined by the court for placement in  
9 an appropriate correctional facility or program;
- 10 (e) with the approval of the facility or program, placement of the offender in a community corrections  
11 facility or program as provided in 53-30-321;
- 12 (f) with the approval of the prerelease center or prerelease program and confirmation by the department  
13 of corrections that space is available, placement of the offender in a prerelease center or prerelease program  
14 for a period not to exceed 1 year;
- 15 (g) chemical treatment of sex offenders, as provided in 45-5-512, if applicable, that is paid for by and  
16 for a period of time determined by the department of corrections, but not exceeding the period of state  
17 supervision of the person; or
- 18 (h) any combination of subsections (2) through (3)(g).
- 19 (4) When deferring imposition of sentence or suspending all or a portion of execution of sentence, the  
20 sentencing judge may impose upon the offender any reasonable restrictions or conditions during the period of  
21 the deferred imposition or suspension of sentence. Reasonable restrictions or conditions imposed under  
22 subsection (1)(a) or (2) may include but are not limited to:
- 23 (a) limited release during employment hours as provided in 46-18-701;
- 24 (b) incarceration in a detention center not exceeding 180 days;
- 25 (c) conditions for probation;
- 26 (d) payment of the costs of confinement;
- 27 (e) payment of a fine as provided in 46-18-231;
- 28 (f) payment of costs as provided in 46-18-232 and 46-18-233;
- 29 (g) payment of costs of court-appointed counsel as provided in 46-8-113;
- 30 (h) with the approval of the facility or program, an order that the offender be placed in a community

1 corrections facility or program as provided in 53-30-321;

2 (i) with the approval of the prerelease center or prerelease program and confirmation by the department  
3 of corrections that space is available, an order that the offender be placed in a prerelease center or prerelease  
4 program for a period not to exceed 1 year;

5 (j) community service;

6 (k) home arrest as provided in Title 46, chapter 18, part 10;

7 (l) payment of expenses for use of a judge pro tempore or special master as provided in 3-5-116;

8 (m) with the approval of the department of corrections and with a signed statement from an offender  
9 that the offender's participation in the boot camp incarceration program is voluntary, an order that the offender  
10 complete the boot camp incarceration program established pursuant to 53-30-403;

11 (n) any other reasonable restrictions or conditions considered necessary for rehabilitation or for the  
12 protection of the victim or society; or

13 (o) any combination of the restrictions or conditions listed in subsections (4)(a) through (4)(n).

14 (5) In addition to any penalties imposed pursuant to subsection (1), if the sentencing judge finds that  
15 the victim of the offense has sustained a pecuniary loss, the sentencing judge shall require payment of full  
16 restitution to the victim as provided in 46-18-241 through 46-18-249.

17 (6) In imposing a sentence on an offender convicted of a sexual or violent offense, as defined in  
18 46-23-502, the sentencing judge may not waive the registration requirement provided in Title 46, chapter 23,  
19 part 5.

20 (7) If a felony sentence includes probation, the department of corrections shall supervise the offender  
21 unless the court specifies otherwise."

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23 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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25 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Retroactive applicability.** [This act] applies retroactively, within the  
26 meaning of 1-2-109, to persons sentenced on or before [the effective date of this act].

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