



Crime (Sentences) Act 1997

1997 CHAPTER 43

PART II

EFFECT OF CUSTODIAL SENTENCES

CHAPTER II

LIFE SENTENCES

Release on licence

30 Power to release life prisoners on compassionate grounds.

- (1) The Secretary of State may at any time release a life prisoner on licence if he is satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist which justify the prisoner's release on compassionate grounds.
- (2) Before releasing a life prisoner under subsection (1) above, the Secretary of State shall consult the Parole Board, unless the circumstances are such as to render such consultation impracticable.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 30: exercise of functions restricted in or as regards Scotland (30.6.1999) by [S.I. 1999/1748, art. 8\(2\)](#), [Sch. 4 Pt. I para. 1\(1\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

Crime (Sentences) Act 1997, Section 30 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 35(5)(c)s. 35(8)(a) by [2000 c. 43 Sch. 7 para. 139\(b\)](#)
- s. 8(5) by [2000 c. 43 Sch. 7 para. 143](#)