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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 2584

04/29/2021

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to corrections; clarifying the governor's power to grant pardons; amending
1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 638.01; 638.02, subdivision 1.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 638.01, is amended to read:

1.6 **638.01 BOARD OF PARDONS; HOW CONSTITUTED; POWERS.**

1.7 The Board of Pardons shall consist of the governor, the chief justice of the supreme
1.8 court, and the attorney general. The governor, in conjunction with the board, may grant
1.9 pardons and reprieves and commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offense
1.10 against the laws of the state, in the manner and under the conditions and rules hereinafter
1.11 prescribed, but not otherwise.

1.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 638.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.13 Subdivision 1. **Absolute or conditional pardons; commutation of sentences.** The
1.14 governor, in conjunction with the Board of Pardons, may grant an absolute or a conditional
1.15 pardon, but every conditional pardon shall state the terms and conditions on which it was
1.16 granted. Every pardon or commutation of sentence shall be in writing and shall have no
1.17 force or effect ~~unless granted by a unanimous vote of the board duly convened~~ if the governor
1.18 or a majority of the board duly convened opposes the pardon or commutation.