

Housing a parolee is an important commitment and task. Being on parole means that the parolee must have a commitment and the maturity to live within the framework of that parole agreement. Failure to comply with the parole agreement can have profound effects upon not only the parolee but the general public as well. Considering this, it is important that those people who have agreed to house these individuals should be willing to report any transgressions to the appropriate authorities. Perhaps this may help to deter a parolee's willingness to break the agreement and perhaps to avoid danger to others. If someone is unwilling to take on the responsibility of housing a parolee, that parolee should not be there. Lailah's law intends to ensure the commitment of someone's allowing a parolee to house with them.

It may be that this law could in many ways limit the housing of parolees. But as Grandmother to a victim, I believe it may be better to consider alternate housing for these individuals. If no one is willing to take the responsibility in the matter of reporting an offender's failure to respect curfew, therefore allowing a parolee who may be willing to commit another horrendous crime the opportunity to do so, then those individuals should never agree to house the parolee. I believe that some of these people perhaps shouldn't be paroled. If no one is willing to be held accountable for the great responsibility toward the safety of our community that comes with housing a parolee then that parolee should remain in prison until they have fulfilled their legal commitment or seek housing with resources in our area such as halfway homes or work release programs where those individuals will be held accountable.

-Daphne Edwards, Grandmother