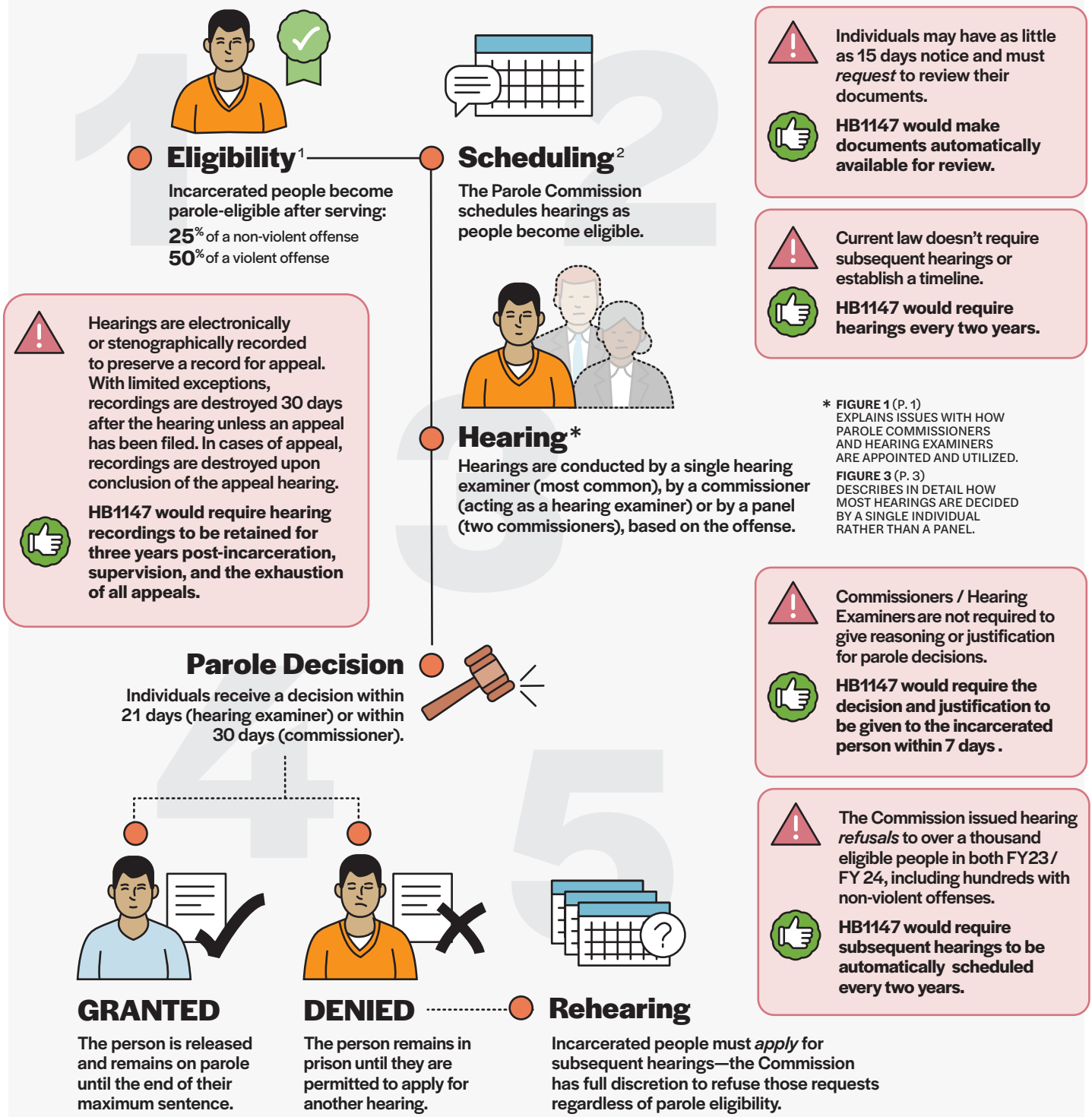


HB1147 & HB1156 would update the current Maryland parole process to improve transparency and equity in each of the areas identified below.



1. Md. Code, Corr. Servs. § 7-301

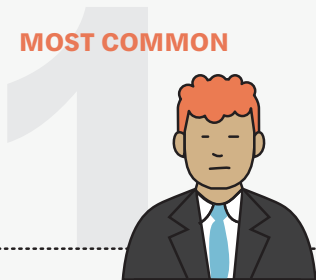
2. According to a records request to DPSCS, people may apply for a subsequent hearing every year (if serving <10 years) or every two years (if serving >10 years).

Most people's hearings are conducted by a **single person** who is *not* an appointed commissioner.<sup>3</sup>



HB1156 would increase the size of the commission and require all parole hearings to be conducted by commissioners.

**MOST COMMON**



The majority of parole hearings are held by a **single Hearing Examiner**, or by a commissioner acting as a hearing examiner.



Approximately 9,000 parole eligible people will have a hearing with only one person.

The hearing examiner submits their report to the Commission. If the Commission does not file an exception (appeal), the recommendation becomes the final decision.

**LESS COMMON (CERTAIN OFFENSES)**



For certain offenses, such as homicide or for parole-eligible life sentences, hearings are conducted by a panel of at least **two Commissioners**.



Approximately 6,000 people serving sentences for homicide or parole-eligible life sentences will have a panel hearing with at least two commissioners.

A unanimous decision of two commissioners is required. If the two do not agree, a new panel of three commissioners is formed to rehear the case. The majority vote of the three is the decision.

**RARE UNDER CURRENT LAW**



Only those convicted of a crime post-October 2021 and given a parole-eligible life sentence have a hearing before the **full Commission**.



A grant requires the affirmative vote of six commissioners — there are currently only seven.

There are few, if any, individuals impacted by this provision that are currently parole eligible.

3. Md. Code, Corr. Servs. § 7-304, Md. Code, Corr. Servs. § 7-306, Md. Code, Corr. Servs. § 7-307

