

## Reform Criminal Justice

### Death Penalty/Jury Instructions

**Original Bill:** [SB1169](#) **Amended Bill:** **Sponsor:** Sen. Mary Elizabeth Coleman (R)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to jury instructions for the offense of murder in the first degree.

**Position Statement:** Support: Support legislation as way to scale back the use of the death penalty, a practice which undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/25/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB859](#) **Amended Bill:** **Sponsor:** Sen. Karla May (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to the offense of murder in the first degree.

**Position Statement:** Support: Support legislation as way to scale back the use of the death penalty, a practice which undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/11/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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### Early Parole/Older Inmates

**Original Bill:** [SB1147](#) **Amended Bill:** **Sponsor:** Sen. Steven Roberts (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to parole eligibility.

**Position Statement:** Support: Older inmates who have served much of their sentence merit a parole hearing to see if they are rehabilitated and can re-enter society. In A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice (2000), the Catholic Bishops state: "We believe that both victims and offender are children of God. Despite their very different claims on society, their lives and dignity should be protected and respected. We seek justice, not vengeance. We believe punishment must have clear purposes: protecting society and rehabilitating those who violate the law." 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/25/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB1218](#) **Amended Bill:** **Sponsor:** Sen. Barbara Washington (D)

**Description:** Creates provisions relating to parole eligibility.

**Position Statement:** Support: Older inmates who have served much of their sentence merit a parole hearing to see if they are rehabilitated and can re-enter society. In A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice (2000), the Catholic Bishops state: "We believe that both victims and offender are children of God. Despite their very different claims on society, their lives and dignity should be protected and respected. We seek justice, not vengeance. We believe punishment must have clear purposes: protecting society and rehabilitating those who violate the law." 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/25/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB1294](#) **Amended Bill:** **Sponsor:** Sen. Brian Williams (D)

**Description:** Creates provisions relating to geriatric parole.

**Position Statement:** Support: Older inmates who have served much of their sentence merit a parole hearing to see if they are rehabilitated and can re-enter society. In A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice (2000), the Catholic Bishops state: "We believe that both victims and offender are children of God. Despite their very different claims on society, their lives and dignity should be protected and respected. We seek justice, not vengeance. We believe punishment must have clear purposes: protecting society and rehabilitating those who violate the law." 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/25/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB914](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Tracy McCreery (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to parole eligibility.

**Position Statement:** Support: Older inmates who have served much of their sentence merit a parole hearing to see if they are rehabilitated and can re-enter society. In A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice (2000), the Catholic Bishops state: "We believe that both victims and offender are children of God. Despite their very different claims on society, their lives and dignity should be protected and respected. We seek justice, not vengeance. We believe punishment must have clear purposes: protecting society and rehabilitating those who violate the law." 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/25/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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### Expanding Mandatory Minimums

**Original Bill:** [HB1545](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Bill Allen (R)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to minimum sentences.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Mandatory minimum sentences replace a judge's discretion in sentencing with rigid formulas, which do not always serve the purpose of punishment for crimes. Adding additional offenses for which minimum sentences must be given moves Missouri in the wrong direction and places additional pressure on Missouri's already overcrowded prisons. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/05/2024 H - Referred to House committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety

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### Expungement

**Original Bill:** [HB2247](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Kimberly-Ann Collins (D)

**Description:** Establishes provisions relating to expungement.

**Position Statement:** Support: Allowing offenders to have their criminal record expunged is a means of restorative justice by giving the offender an opportunity to return to being a productive member of society. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/04/2024 H - Read Second Time

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**Original Bill:** [SB1194](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Barbara Washington (D)

**Description:** Creates provisions relating to expungement.

**Position Statement:** Support: Allowing offenders to have their criminal record expunged is a means of restorative justice by giving the offender an opportunity to return to being a productive member of society. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/25/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB763](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Brian Williams (D)

**Description:** Creates provisions relating to expungement.

**Position Statement:** Support: Allowing offenders to have their criminal record expunged is a means of restorative justice by giving the offender an opportunity to return to being a productive member of society. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/09/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB861](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Brian Williams (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to expungement.

**Position Statement:** Support: Allowing offenders to have their criminal record expunged is a means of restorative justice by giving the offender an opportunity to return to being a productive member of society. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/24/2024 S - Superseded by SB 754

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### Gain Time for Good Behavior

**Original Bill:** [HB2203](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Kimberly-Ann Collins (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to good time credit.

**Position Statement:** Support: Inmates serving a term of years should be provided gain time for good behavior as a reward and an incentive. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/24/2024 H - Public hearing completed

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**Original Bill:** [SB1333](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Steven Roberts (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to good time credit for time served.

**Position Statement:** Support: Inmates serving a term of years should be provided gain time for good behavior as a reward and an incentive. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/25/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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### Providing ID to Inmates Prior to Release

**Original Bill:** [HB2502](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Philip Oehlerking (R)

**Description:** Requires the department of corrections to provide certain services to inmates prior to their release from the department.

**Position Statement:** Support: Support providing identification documents to help an individual reintegrate back into society. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/31/2024 H - Public hearing completed

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**Original Bill:** [SB1254](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Greg Razer (D)

**Description:** Creates provisions relating to documents for inmates prior to release from prison.

**Position Statement:** Support: Support providing identification documents to help an individual reintegrate back into society. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/25/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure, and Public Safety

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### Reforms Private Probation

**Original Bill:** [SB1227](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Barbara Washington (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to terms of probation.

**Position Statement:** Support: Probation providers should be limited in the requirements they are permitted to impose upon offenders as a matter of justice and the legitimate exercise of public authority. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/25/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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## Wrongful Convictions/Compensation

**Original Bill:** [HB1597](#) **Amended Bill:** **Sponsor:** Rep. LaKeySha Bosley (D)

**Description:** Creates a civil cause of action allowing claimants to seek damages from the state for wrongful conviction.

**Position Statement:** Support: As a matter of justice, persons wrongfully convicted deserve compensation. This legislation increases the compensation already provided under current law. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/04/2024 H - Read Second Time

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**Original Bill:** [SB860](#) **Amended Bill:** **Sponsor:** Sen. Brian Williams (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions involving wrongful convictions.

**Position Statement:** Support: As a matter of justice, persons wrongfully convicted deserve compensation. This legislation increases the compensation already provided under current law. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/11/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB883](#) **Amended Bill:** **Sponsor:** Sen. Steven Roberts (D)

**Description:** Creates provisions relating to compensation for wrongful convictions.

**Position Statement:** Support: As a matter of justice, persons wrongfully convicted deserve compensation. This legislation increases the compensation already provided under current law. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/11/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB886](#) **Amended Bill:** **Sponsor:** Sen. Barbara Washington (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to restitution for individuals who are actually innocent.

**Position Statement:** Support: As a matter of justice, persons wrongfully convicted deserve compensation. This legislation increases the compensation already provided under current law. 01/12/24

**Last Action:** 01/11/2024 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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