

## Reform Criminal Justice

### Death Penalty/Jury Instructions

**Original Bill:** [HB452](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Ian Mackey (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to trial procedures for murder in the first degree.

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** Support legislation as way to scale back the use of the death penalty, a practice which undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/09/2025 H - Read Second Time

**Original Bill:** [HB894](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Michael Davis (R)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to trial procedures for murder in the first degree.

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** Support legislation as way to scale back the use of the death penalty, a practice which undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/16/2025 H - Read Second Time

**Original Bill:** [SB225](#)    **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:** Support

**MCC Statement:** Support legislation as way to scale back the use of the death penalty, a practice which undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/08/2025 S - Read First Time

### Early Parole/Older Inmates

**Original Bill:** [SB234](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Tracy McCreery (D)

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

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** 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." 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/08/2025 S - Read First Time

**Original Bill:** [SB341](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Steven Roberts (D)

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

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** 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." 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/08/2025 S - Read First Time

**Original Bill:** [SB438](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Barbara Washington (D)

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

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** 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." 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/08/2025 S - Read First Time

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## Expungement

**Original Bill:** [SB19](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Brian Williams (D)

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

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** 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. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/29/2025 S - Hearing Conducted - Senate-Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB424](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Barbara Washington (D)

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

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** 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. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/08/2025 S - Read First Time

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**Original Bill:** [SB435](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Curtis Trent (R)

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

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** 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. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/08/2025 S - Read First Time

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## Gain Time for Good Behavior

**Original Bill:** [HB728](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Kimberly-Ann Collins (D)

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

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** Inmates serving a term of years should be provided gain time for good behavior as a reward and an incentive. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/09/2025 H - Read Second Time

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## Wrongful Convictions/Compensation

**Original Bill:** [HB254](#)    **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:** Support

**MCC Statement:** As a matter of justice, persons wrongfully convicted deserve compensation. This legislation increases the compensation already provided under current law. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/09/2025 H - Read Second Time

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**Original Bill:** [SB36](#)      **Amended Bill:**      **Sponsor:** Sen. Steven Roberts (D)

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

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** As a matter of justice, persons wrongfully convicted deserve compensation. This legislation increases the compensation already provided under current law. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/29/2025 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

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**Original Bill:** [SB377](#)      **Amended Bill:**      **Sponsor:** Sen. Barbara Washington (D)

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

**Position:** Support

**MCC Statement:** As a matter of justice, persons wrongfully convicted deserve compensation. This legislation increases the compensation already provided under current law. 01/17/25

**Last Action:** 01/08/2025 S - Read First Time

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