

# **Criminal Justice Reforms 2022**





1

# **Extreme Sentencing and Decarceration Reforms**

---

---

## ◦ Revised Criminal Code Act of 2022 (RCCA) ◦

- Washington D.C.
- Measure eliminated most mandatory minimum sentences, lowered maximum sentences to 45 years, eliminated accomplice liability for felony murder, and an expansion on judicial reconsideration for individuals serving long prison terms
- increases sentences for attempted murder, attempted sexual assault, misdemeanor sexual abuse
- Will not take effect until 2027

“ Years of evidence-based research, dialogue, debate, public engagement and thoughtful improvements went into producing it. ... I truly believe it will foster healthier communities by creating a more uniform penalty system, reducing sentencing disparities that fall hardest on Black men and their families.” - Ward 5 Council Member Zachary Parker

2

## **Drug Policy Reform**

---

---

## Senate Bill 90

---

- Kentucky
- Establish pilot behavioral health conditional dismissal programs for individuals charged with certain low-level drug offenses
- Measure allows someone charged with certain non-violent crimes determined to have a mental health or substance use disorder to have their case put on hold and go into treatment instead, under certain conditions
- Pilot program would include services to outpatient treatment, cognitive and behavioral therapies, educational and vocational services and housing assistance



3

## **Early Completion of Probation and Parole Violations**

---



## Senate Bill 752

### **CS/CS/SB 752 — Probationary or Supervision Services for Misdemeanor Offenders**

by Appropriations Committee; Criminal Justice Committee; and Senators Gainer, Pizzo, and Perry

The bill removes a statutory prohibition on a private entity providing probationary or supervision services to misdemeanor offenders who are sentenced by a circuit court. The bill also authorizes the Department of Corrections (DOC) to supervise misdemeanor offenders when such supervision is ordered by a circuit court, but retains the requirement that the DOC supervise felony offenders. Under current law, a private or a public entity may only provide probation services to offenders sentenced by a county court; and the DOC must supervise felony and misdemeanor offenders who are sentenced to or placed on probation or other supervision by a circuit court.

The bill transfers the authority to approve a contract with a private entity to provide supervision services for misdemeanor offenders from the county court judge or administrative judge to the chief judge of the circuit.

The bill authorizes probationers or offenders in community control to fulfill the reporting requirements of their terms and conditions of probation by reporting to their probation office remotely if approved by the relevant probation officer, county probation authority or entity, or the DOC, and if the court has not excluded remote reporting in its order of probation. If the DOC or a county probation authority authorizes remote reporting, the entity must adopt and make available remote reporting policies.

The bill requires the DOC to implement a graduated incentives system in a manner that encourages educational achievement and stable employment, in addition to promoting compliance with terms of supervision and prioritizing the highest level of supervision for probationers and offenders presenting the greatest risk of recidivism. The DOC must incentivize educational achievement by awarding a 60-day reduction in the term of supervision for a probationer or offender in community control who completes an educational advancement activity, such as obtaining a high school diploma, a high school equivalency degree, an academic degree, or a vocational certificate, during his or her term of supervision. The DOC must also incentivize stable employment by awarding a 30-day reduction in the term of supervision for a probationer or offender in community control who completes a period of “workforce achievement.” The bill defines “workforce achievement” as maintaining full-time, paid employment for at least 30 hours a week for a 6-month period. The DOC must verify such employment through supporting documentation, such as any record, letter, pay stub, contract, or other DOC-approved verification method.

- Florida
- Allows residents on probation to receive education and workforce credits to reduce their probation terms
- Earn 60 days off their probation term for each completed educational activity.



4

# Youth Justice

---



# House Bill 1359

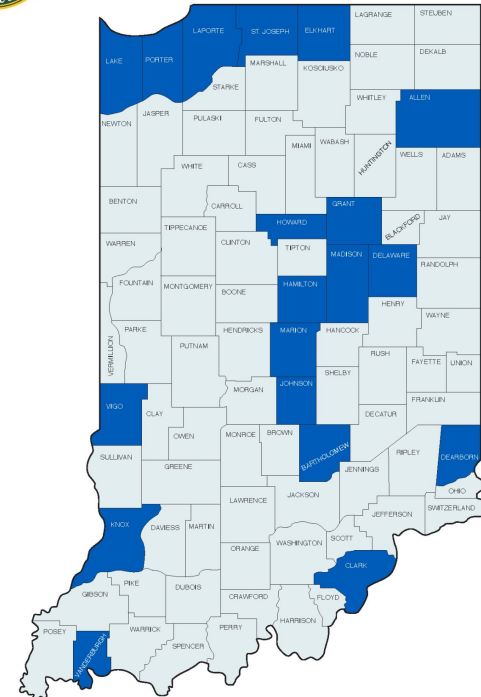
- Indiana
- Improve data collection on statewide juvenile justice systems
- Address broader behavioral health services to children in the juvenile justice system
- Raise the age of detention to 12
- Plan juvenile diversion and community alternatives grant programs



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION /  
DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES

## Juvenile Detention Centers

Updated: April 2018



5

## **Voting Rights**

---

# VOTES Act

## The **VOTES** Act

Sponsored by Rep John Lawn and Senator Cynthia Creem

- **Permanent Mail-In Voting Expansion**
- **Same Day Voter Registration**
- **In-person Early Voting and more!**



#VOTESAct

- Massachusetts
- Provisions guaranteeing ballot access for incarcerated persons
- Jails are to “ensure the receipt, private voting, where possible, and return of mail ballots”
- Require sheriffs to ensure that citizens serving misdemeanor convictions or being held in pretrial maintain the right to vote and can access the necessary resources.

---

## Work Cited

---

Hatting, Abigail. "US Senate Blocks Washington's Revised Criminal Code Act." *VOA, Voice of America (VOA News)*, 9 Mar. 2023, [www.voanews.com/a/us-senate-blocks-washington-s-revised-criminal-code-act/6998127.html#:~:text=What%20is%20the%20Revised%20Criminal,not%20take%20effect%20until%202025](http://www.voanews.com/a/us-senate-blocks-washington-s-revised-criminal-code-act/6998127.html#:~:text=What%20is%20the%20Revised%20Criminal,not%20take%20effect%20until%202025).

Patrick, Melissa, and Al Cross. "Senate Sends House a Bill to Create a Pilot Program for Treatment of Offenders with Mental-Health or Substance-Use Disorders." *Kentucky Health News*, University of Kentucky, 21 Mar. 2022, [cdev.uky.edu/kentuckyhealthnews/2022/03/21/senate-sends-house-a-bill-to-create-a-pilot-program-for-treatment-of-offenders-with-mental-health-or-substance-use-disorders/](http://cdev.uky.edu/kentuckyhealthnews/2022/03/21/senate-sends-house-a-bill-to-create-a-pilot-program-for-treatment-of-offenders-with-mental-health-or-substance-use-disorders/).

Committee , Criminal Justice. "The Florida Senate." *2022 Bill Summaries - The Florida Senate*, State of Florida, 2022, [www.flsenate.gov/Committees/BillSummaries/2022/html/2685](http://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/BillSummaries/2022/html/2685).

McNamara , Wendy. "House Bill 1359 - Juvenile Law Matters - Indiana General Assembly, 2022 ..." *House Bill 1359*, 2022, [iga.in.gov/legislative/2022/bills/house/1359](http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2022/bills/house/1359).

Division of Youth Services. "Juvenile Detention Centers." *Division of Youth Services*, 21 Dec. 2022, [www.in.gov/idoc/dys/juvenile-detention-centers/](http://www.in.gov/idoc/dys/juvenile-detention-centers/).

Oommen, Dhati. "What's in the Votes Act?" *Harvard Political Review*, 8 Nov. 2022, [harvardpolitics.com/votes-act/](http://harvardpolitics.com/votes-act/).