SENATE BILL 3233: EARNED DISCRETIONARY REENTRY


SB3233 shifts the focus of the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) from warehousing to rehabilitating people by giving people with long-term sentences the right to regular review by the Prisoner Review Board.

BACKGROUND
Illinois prisons hold approximately 5,000 people serving life and de-facto life sentences. Legislation was passed in 1978 eliminating parole, leaving the state with no mechanism to review incarcerated people for release. Nearly every other state has a procedure for reviewing and releasing people with long-term sentences who are ready to rejoin society. Illinois does not. If nothing changes, Illinois taxpayers will be billed for geriatric prisons while thousands of Illinoisans will be required to grow old and die behind bars, with no periodic review of whether their continued incarceration serves any purpose.

ENDORSEMENTS
SB3233 has been endorsed by over 7,900 individuals and more than 40 organizations, including the Chicago Community Bond Fund, the Shriver Center, and the John Howard Association.

CORE PROVISION
Establishes that a person serving a term of imprisonment is eligible to be reviewed for earned discretionary reentry by the Prisoner Review Board when they have served at least 20 years.

Benefits:
✓ Allows individuals who have aged out of crime and pose little risk to public safety an opportunity to return to productive lives
✓ Reunites families and helps children to heal from parental incarceration
✓ Takes into account the drastic drop in recidivism rates that occurs after young adulthood
✓ Will save the state millions in healthcare and incarceration costs by reviewing the sentences of people who are rehabilitated before they become old and infirm

$43K
Avg. cost of incarceration per year per person in Illinois

$2.3K
Cost per person per year of mandatory supervised release

$9M
Estimated savings in the first year of SB3233 implementation

$183M
Estimated savings within ten years of SB3233 implementation

Parole Illinois is a non-profit organization of people inside and outside of prison working for a more just and humane criminal-legal system.
SB 3233
ENDORSEMENTS

360 57th St. Meeting of Friends
Babes Only
Black and Pink Chicago
Black Students Union, University of Illinois Chicago
BPI Chicago
Campaign Nonviolence, DePaul University, Chicago 400 Alliance
Chicago Books to Women in Prison
Chicago Community Bond Fund (CCBF)
Chicago Torture Justice Center (CTJC)
Chicago Votes
Compound Yellow
Contextos
Engage Miami
Faith In Place Action Fund
FirstFollowers
Flood’s Hall
Freedom To Learn Illinois
Good Kids Mad City
Grassroots Collaborative
Herbal Legal
Herbal Notes
Illinois Coalition for Higher Education in Prison (IL-CHEP)
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICCIRR)
Indivisible Illinois
Jean and Jane 420
John Howard Association
Judicial Accountability PAC
Justice Works, University of Chicago
Social Services Administration
LetUsBreathe

Liberation Library
Mothers Activating Movements for Abolition and Solidarity (MAMAS)
Media Justice
New Community Church (Bronzeville)
Organized Communities Against Deportation (OCAD)
Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation
Project Hardknocks
Restore Justice
Right2Vote Campaign & SawariMedia
Shiller Preyar Jarard and Samuels Law Firm
Shriver Center
Soapbox Productions and Organizing
Students Against Incarceration
Students for Justice in Palestine, DePaul University
Uptown People’s Law Center
Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois

www.paroleillinois.org