



SB2333 is a bipartisan issue. Here's why...

SB2333 is a bipartisan issue. Fiscal conservatives, anti-racists, and people of faith who see virtue in redemption share common ground in restoring incarcerated people to useful lives. At the federal level, leaders from Senator Bernie Sanders to Senator Lindsey Graham have affirmed openness to bringing back parole.¹

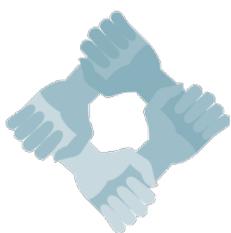


SB2333 offers a structured and merit-based way to reduce the prison population. EDR does not let everyone out. Nor does it entail an emergency scramble to release people. Instead, it provides a regular and merit-based system of review, which utilizes the existing Prisoner Review Board and requires that candidates earn release by demonstrating their readiness to rejoin society before the Prisoner Review Board.

SB2333 is based on science. Since the abolition of parole in 1978, studies have shown that harsh sentences do not deter crime, that human brains are not fully developed until age 25, and that recidivism rates drop sharply for people beginning in their mid-20s and then continue to drop as people age.² EDR provides a mechanism to identify and return to productive citizenship those rehabilitated people whose continued incarceration serves no social purpose.

SB2333 saves taxpayer money.

- Average cost per year to incarcerate someone in IDOC: \$43,000
- Average cost per year to put someone on supervised release: \$2,300
- Expense of incarcerating people this year who would be eligible for EDR: \$52.3 million



SB2333 helps to heal all members of our community. According to a 2016 Alliance for Safety and Justice national poll, 69% of crime survivors support alternatives to incarceration, such as mental-health treatment and rehabilitative programming that focus on positive transformation.³ Crime survivors, people convicted of crimes, and their families all benefit when EDR helps to shift the focus of Illinois prisons from warehousing to rehabilitating people and supporting their healthy return to their communities.⁴

1. Shaila Dewan, "Here's One Issue That Could Actually Break the Partisan Gridlock," New York Times, November 24, 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/24/us/criminal-justice-reform-republicans-democrats.html>.
2. Kevin C. Kennedy, Michigan State University College of Law, "A Critical Appraisal of Criminal Deterrence Theory," 88 Dick L (1983-1984); Jeffrey Jensen Arnett, Emerging Adulthood: A theory of development from the late teens through the twenties, 55 Am. Psychologist, 469,471 (2000); Marc Mauer, "Time to Reconsider the Scale of Punishment," The Sentencing Project, November 2018.
3. "Crime Survivors Speak," Alliance for Safety and Justice, <https://allianceforsafetyandjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/documents/Crime%20Survivors%20Speak%20Report.pdf>.
4. "What do Victims Want from Criminal Justice Reform," The Urban Institute, <https://www.urban.org/urban-wire/what-do-victims-want-criminal-justice-reform>.