

State Issue 1: Reduces Prison Time for Dangerous Criminals

Claim

The amendment increases public safety by rewarding personal rehabilitation while in prison. It is the intent of the amendment to “ensure that state prison spending is focused on violent and serious offenses.” Amendment Division (A).

The Facts

The amendment creates a constitutional right to a 25% sentence reduction for violent and non-violent criminals. It will result in dangerous criminals being released from prison early. Only individuals sentenced to death or life without parole, or who were convicted of murder, rape, or “child molestation”¹ will be prevented from receiving a reduced sentence. In order to receive this 25% sentence reduction, the offender need only “participate” in programming. There is no requirement that the person complete the programming or demonstrate rehabilitation. It places the interests of those who break the law ahead of the interests of innocent victims. Victims will not have peace of mind about when their offender will get out of prison.

Here are some of the offenses for which people will be released from prison early:

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| Voluntary Manslaughter (R.C. 2903.03) | Terrorism (R.C. 2909.24) |
| Involuntary Manslaughter (R.C. 2903.04) | Aggravated Robbery (R.C. 2911.01) |
| Felonious Assault (R.C. 2903.11) | Aggravated Arson (R.C. 2909.02) |
| Aggravated Assault (R.C. 2903.12) | Robbery (R.C. 2911.02) |
| Permitting Child Abuse (R.C. 2903.15) | Aggravated Burglary (R.C. 2911.11) |
| Menacing by Stalking (R.C. 2903.211) | Inciting to Violence (R.C. 2917.01) |
| Kidnapping (R.C. 2905.01) | Aggravated Riot (R.C. 2917.02) |
| Abduction (R.C. 2905.02) | Inducing Panic (R.C. 2917.31) |
| Extortion (R.C. 2905.11) | Domestic Violence (R.C. 2919.25) |
| Trafficking in Persons (R.C. 2905.32) | Endangering Children (R.C. 2919.22) |
| Sexual Battery (R.C. 2907.03) | Drug Trafficking (R.C. 2925.03) |
| Gross Sexual Imposition (R.C. 2907.05) | Illegal Manufacture of Drugs (R.C. 2925.04) |
| Arson (R.C. 2909.03) | Funding Drug Trafficking (R.C. 2925.05) |

¹ “Child molestation” is not a criminal offense in the Ohio Revised Code. It is unclear what is intended.