EXPAND HOLISTIC REPRESENTATION ACROSS NEW JERSEY

WHY NEW JERSEY MUST PASS A4897/S4298

People who are facing criminal charges are also often grappling with difficult challenges in their personal lives. Holistic representation is a proven approach that provides people moving through the criminal legal system with access to essential services to support them as they navigate their case. A4897/S4298 would establish the New Jersey Holistic Representation Model across the state, strengthening public safety and giving everyone access to the resources they need.

WHAT A4897/S4298 DOES

The bill would create a statewide model within the Office of the Public Defender that pairs attorneys with client services specialists to support people facing criminal charges. Specialists help connect people to existing community programs that provide housing opportunities, mental health care, substance use treatment, employment, education, transportation, and family support.

WHY PASSING A4897/S4298 IS IMPORTANT

Increased access to essential services will enhance public safety and make New Jersey's communities stronger.

Other states have witnessed the tremendous impact of increasing availability to essential services, and New Jersey has too. In the first year of a pilot program in Hudson, Monmouth, and Atlantic counties, service connections increased by more than 400%, and data analysis suggests that expanding holistic representation across the state would save taxpayers at least $12.7 million a year.

The New Jersey Holistic Representation Model has been tested, and it works. Now we must establish it statewide.

EVERYONE DESERVES ACCESS TO THE SERVICES AND HELP THEY NEED. IT'S TIME TO PASS A4897/S4298.

FIND OUT MORE AT ACLU-NJ.ORG.

ACLU NJ