VISION TO CUT MASS INCARCERATION IN NEW JERSEY

The ACLU of New Jersey's Path to Dramatically Cut Our State's Prison and Jail Population

A multitude of root causes created mass incarceration, and only a multi-pronged approach can address it. In 2015, there were 36,486 in New Jersey's prisons and jails. The ACLU of New Jersey has a vision to cut that number significantly.



Reducing the Number of People Entering Prisons and Jails

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E	STIMATED POTENTIAL REDUCTION
End Reliance on Pretrial Detention	8,500
Eliminate Mandatory Minimums	3,300
Convince Judges to Consider the Costs	2,000
Reduce Unnecessary Police Encounters:	
Stop Arrests for Drug Possession	
Decriminalize Sex Work	
Legalize Marijuana	
End Criminal Punishment of Lowest-Level	Offenses 800
Increase the Minimum Wage	750



Rethinking Release

Fix the Parole System for State Prisons	1,400
Fix Parole for County Jails	400
Stop Imprisoning People for Technical Parole Violations	300
Compassionate Release	100
Expand Earned-Eligibility Credits	1,200
Expand Participation in Successful Re-entry Programs	100
Introduce More Robust Re-entry Programs	1,000
Establish Prisoner Cooperative Programs	200



Fixing the System

- ☑ Encourage Pretrial Intervention
- ☑ Reform the Parole Board's Composition
- ☑ End Warrants for First-Time Failures to Appear
- Reform Prosecutor's Offices to Stop Incentivizing Win-At-All-Costs Dynamic
- ☑ Pass Legislation Requiring Reinvestment of Criminal Justice Savings Into Affected Communities
- ☑ Build Transparency Into the System

Envisioned Estimated Total Approximate Remaining Prisoners

19,750

16,750