

# 2024 Legislative Priorities

## **HB 1087/SB 5135**

### **Concerning solitary confinement.**

Limits DOC and private detention centers to using solitary confinement for 15 consecutive days and for no more than 45 days in a calendar year. This bill also establishes restrictions on its use for vulnerable populations, requires medical evaluations, and establishes standards for living conditions.

## **HB 1174**

### **Improving access and removing barriers to jail-based voting**

Requires state and local officials to establish policies and procedures to improve access and remove barriers to jail-based voting. Requires jails to provide information regarding registering to vote, access a ballot outreach and education

## **HB 1189**

### **Concerning the release of incarcerated individuals from total confinement prior to the expiration of a sentence.**

Expands and modifies the membership and process requirements for Clemency and Pardons Board (CPB). Establishes a process for qualified persons to petition CPB for conditional commutations. Allows CPB to recommend to the governor conditional commutations be granted in certain circumstances. Authorizes DOC to supervise those granted conditional commutations. Expands the eligibility criteria and modify electronic monitoring requirements for those granted extraordinary medical placement by DOC.

## **HB 1268**

### **Concerning sentencing enhancements.**

Allow the earning of good time credits for portion of sentence attributable to sentencing enhancement, removes requirements for serving a portion of the sentence attributable to enhancement in total confinement. Allows multiple sentence enhancements to be served concurrently, instead of consecutively. Repeals enhancement for involving a minor in criminal street gang-related felony.

## **HB 1440**

### **Concerning the jurisdiction of juvenile court.**

Increases the age for when children are legally incapable of committing a crime from age 8 or younger to age 14 or younger. Establishes that children ages 8-13 who are charged with Murder 1st or 2nd degree are presumed incapable of committing crime, but presumption may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence that the child has sufficient capacity to understand act or neglect and know it was wrong. Creates Raise the Age Juvenile Justice task force that must consider and provide recommendations regarding expansion of juvenile jurisdiction to encompass persons ages 18-20 by July 1, 2027.

### **HB 1513/SB 5572**

#### **Improving traffic safety.**

Limits officer use of stops and detentions for non-moving violations as the primary offense, specifies additional process requirements for traffic stops. Requires written consent before officer may search a vehicle or passengers. Requires officers to prepare a detailed report for each stop or detention. Creates a grant program focused on interventions for non-moving violations for low-income road users.

### **HB 1995**

#### **Providing gate money to individuals releasing from custody prior to the expiration of their sentence.**

Requires DOC to provide clothing, a minimum of \$40 (\$100 max) for transportation to residence or designated parole plan. Additional \$60 may be provided for personal and living expenses with application to and approval from CCO.

### **HB 2001**

#### **Judicial Discretion Act**

Authorizes sentencing courts to review lengthy sentences upon showing that the person's original sentence no longer serves the interests of justice.

### **HB 2030**

#### **Revoking a person's voting rights only when convicted of a state crime punishable by death.**

Makes only the conviction for voter revocation a conviction with a death penalty sentence. The death penalty was abolished in Washington state effective July 23, 2023 after the governor's signing of SB 5087.

### **SB 5773**

#### **Concerning public defense services**

Expands the Office of Public Defense's Funding (OPD). Requires OPD examine and make recommendations to reduce trial level criminal public defense services, caseloads, and backlogs. Requires OPD provide documentation that attorneys providing public defense services are in compliance with the Washington supreme court standards for indigent defense; and make recommendations to increase retention of experienced public defenders in high-need counties and cities. Report their findings, recommendations to the appropriate fiscal & policy committee of the legislature by December 1, 2023.

### **SB 6189**

#### **Concerning transparency, public safety, and independent oversight of the city, county, and regional jail system in Washington state.**

Creates an independent agency to provide transparency, public safety, and independent oversight of Washington's city, county, and regional jail systems.

# 2024 Legislative Priorities