Smarter Choices ...

... Safer Communities

Richard Jerome, Project Manager
Public Safety Performance Project
Key Points

1. National Trends: Exploding Population and Higher Costs

2. New Strategies and Directions

3. Justice Reinvestment Process
Prison Day Costs 23 Times More

One day in prison costs more than 23 days on probation.

- **Prison Systems** average cost: $78.95
- **Probation Agencies** average cost: $3.42
A Tale of Two States

Prison Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Florida</th>
<th>New York</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>51,000</td>
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</table>

Crime Rate

- Florida: 28.2%
- New York: 29.2%

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A Window of Opportunity

• Advances in supervision technology
• Advances in the science of behavior change
• More accurate risk assessments
• Public support for prison alternatives
• Increasing focus on cost-benefit analysis
• Budget pressure
Bipartisan, Inter-Branch Process

Step 1: Goal Setting
- Determine the cost of doing nothing
- Agree on process and timeline

Step 2: Analysis
- Identify drivers of prison population growth
- Audit corrections and community supervision policies

Step 3: Policy Development
- Consider Evidence-Based Practices (EBP)
- Develop policy options and model effects

Step 4: Consensus Building
- Issue recommendations
- Draft legislation

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Step 1: Determine the Cost of Doing Nothing

PRISON POPULATION GROWTH

Arkansas’s prison population is projected to grow by more than 6,500 inmates over the next 10 years at an estimated cost of $1.1 billion in operations and construction.

SOURCE: Projections were calculated by JJIE Institute, 2010.
Step 2: Analyze the Drivers of the Prison Population

• Analyze sentencing and prison admission data
• Audit corrections and community supervision policies for use of evidence-based practices
• Consult criminal justice stakeholders including judges, prosecutors, public defenders, sheriffs, and chiefs of police
• Compare [State] to surrounding states and against itself historically (e.g. have sentence lengths increased?)
Step 3: Develop Policy Recommendations

- Improve Public Safety by Strengthening Community Corrections
  - Evidence Based Practices
  - Performance Incentive Funding
  - Administrative Responses
- Sentencing and Release Options
  - Use Risk and Needs Assessment in Parole Decisions
  - Mandatory Reentry Supervision
  - Felony Theft Thresholds
- Reinvestment
Step 4: Build Consensus

Organizations that Endorsed Arkansas’ Public Safety Improvement Act:

- Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce
- CHIEFS
- Arkansas Sheriffs’ Association
- APAA Arkansas Prosecuting Attorneys Association
- Public Defender Commission State of Arkansas

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**Business Leaders Speak Out**

**Kentucky**
Dave Adkisson  
President & CEO, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce  
Chairman of the Board, American Chamber of Commerce Executives

**Florida**
Barney T. Bishop III  
President and Chief Executive Officer, Associated Industries of Florida

**Illinois**
Frank H. Beal  
Executive Director, Chicago Metropolis 2020  
Board Member, Business and Professional People for the Public Interest

**Michigan**
James R. Holcomb  
Vice President for Business Advocacy and Associate General Counsel, Michigan Chamber of Commerce

**Oregon**
Erin Hubert  
Vice President and General Manager, Entercom Radio  
Board Chair, Citizens Crime Commission

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“...Conservatives are known for being tough on crime, but we must also be tough on criminal justice spending...”

- Jeb Bush, former Governor of Florida
- Newt Gingrich, American Solutions for Winning the Future
- Grover Norquist, Americans for Tax Reform
- Edwin Meese III, former U.S. Attorney General
- William J. Bennett, former Education Secretary, “Drug Czar”
- Asa Hutchinson, former U.S. Attorney, DEA Administrator
- Pat Nolan, Justice Fellowship, former CA House Republican leader
- David Keene, American Conservative Union
- Richard Viguerie, ConservativeHQ.com
- Tony Perkins, Family Research Council
- Ward Connerly, American Civil Rights Institute