

## PROPOSITION 57: TALKING POINTS – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is the Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act of 2016?

- Authorizes parole consideration for people with non-violent convictions who complete the full sentence for their primary offense.
- Incentives people in prison to complete rehabilitation and education programs and earn credit toward release.
- Requires the Secretary of Corrections to certify that the regulations implementing new credit awarding policies protect and enhance public safety.
- Requires judges rather than prosecutors to decide whether a youth as young as 14-years-old should be tried as an adult.
- Mandates a judge carefully review all of the circumstances of a youth's crime and life before making a decision on whether that young person should be charged as an adult.

Will this Measure lead to Release of People that are Dangerous to the Community?

- No. There is NO automatic release for anyone. This measure simple replaces mandatory one-size-fits-all approaches to sentencing – which has wasted billions of dollars – with discretion. It gives parole boards and judges discretion to determine who is safe for release and rehabilitated and who is not. There is NO automatic release.

Why Does California need it?

- The state has wasted literally billions of dollars on a bloated and costly corrections system that does little to stop the cycle of crime.
- California's prisons have gotten so overcrowded over the years that they now are under a court-ordered mandatory population cap. Without Proposition 57, federal courts will be forced to arbitrarily release people to meet the cap. There is a smarter way – incentives and discretion – and that's what Proposition 57 is about.
- Everyone impacted by this initiative has a release date – the question is whether they will be rehabilitated or warehoused. Instead of making matters worse, the corrections system should prioritize rehabilitation. This measure is focused on that.

How Does The Parole Process Work?

- No one is automatically released under this measure. This measure maintains parole board discretion to prevent release for anyone that is a risk to public safety.
- This measure allows people convicted of nonviolent offenses that have completed the sentence of their primary offense and passed a public safety screen to be considered for parole. An inmate must demonstrate to a parole board that he or she is rehabilitated and does not pose a risk to public safety.

How Many People will the Parole Process Impact?

- There are approximately 7,000 inmates in state custody who have completed their primary sentence for a nonviolent offense, passed a public safety screening, and would be eligible for parole consideration.

Who is Eligible to Receive Prison Credits under this Measure?

- CDCR will determine who is eligible after adopting prison credit regulations for prisoners with release dates that complete rehabilitation programs. The regulations go through a period of public comment and CDCR Secretary must certify that the regulations protect and enhance public safety.

Will this Measure undermine Victims' Rights?

- No. this measure does not impact victims' rights in any way.

Will this Measure Change Law Related to Sex Offenses?

- No. This measure does not change any law related to sex offenses.