



Prosecutor-Initiated Resentencing

A New Tool for Advancing
Justice and Public Safety

October 7, 2024

forthepppl.org



BY *the* NUMBERS ——— 01

1.9M

people currently housed in
U.S. correctional facilities

————— 02

3.7M

people currently under
supervision in the U.S.

————— 03


\$80.7 B

spent by our government per
year on incarceration




WHY PROSECUTORS ARE LOOKING BACK

Racial Disparities




Black men incarcerated **6x** than white men. Hispanic/Latinx men incarcerated **2.5x** than white men.

Crime and Age



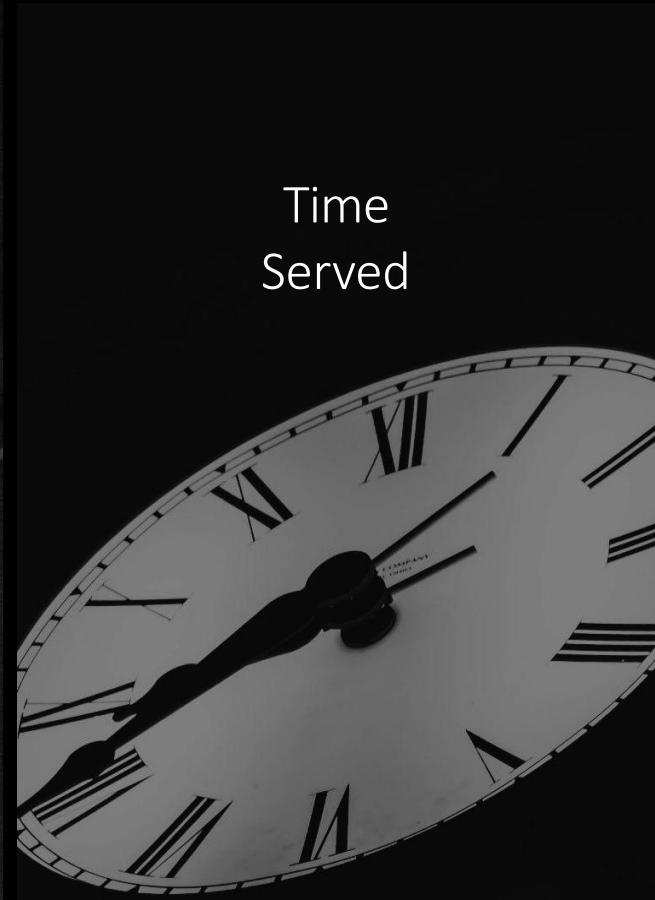
Crime rates drop as people age yet **10%** of state prison are people 55+.

Youth + The Brain



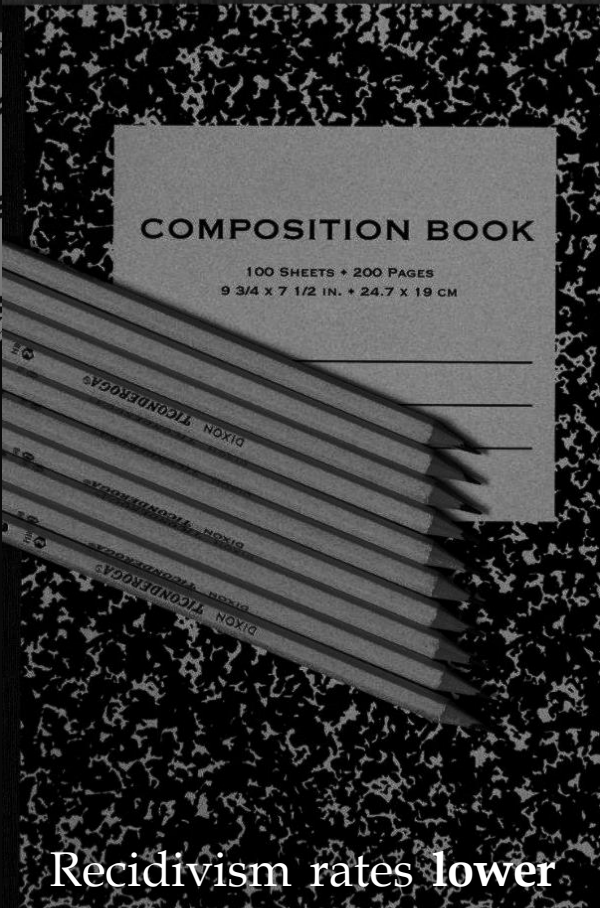
Brain not fully developed until mid-20s

Time Served



In 2019, **more than half** (57%) of the prison population served 10+ years.

Programming + Education



Recidivism rates **lower** with education, programming, and work while incarcerated.



The prosecutor is not merely a case-processor but also a **problem-solver** responsible for considering broad goals of the criminal justice system [and] **should seek to reform and improve the administration of criminal justice**, and when inadequacies or injustices in the substantive or procedural law come to the prosecutor's attention...**should stimulate and support efforts for remedial action.**"

THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Criminal Justice Section



The Beginning of PIR Nationwide

Passing the Law

- 2018 → Bill passes
- AB 2942 in California
- District Attorney bill sponsor
- 2019 → For The People founded to help DA offices
- 2019 → Implementation begins





Prosecutor-Initiated Resentencing Mechanics of the Law

- Discretionary
- No Mandates / Carve-outs
- Victim Engagement
- Defense + Community Collaboration
- Court Decides
- Resentencing Scope



Impact To Date

States that have passed PIR laws:

Five

CA, OR, WA, IL, MN. Laws also proposed in NY, UT, TX, +more.

People with a second chance:

1,000+

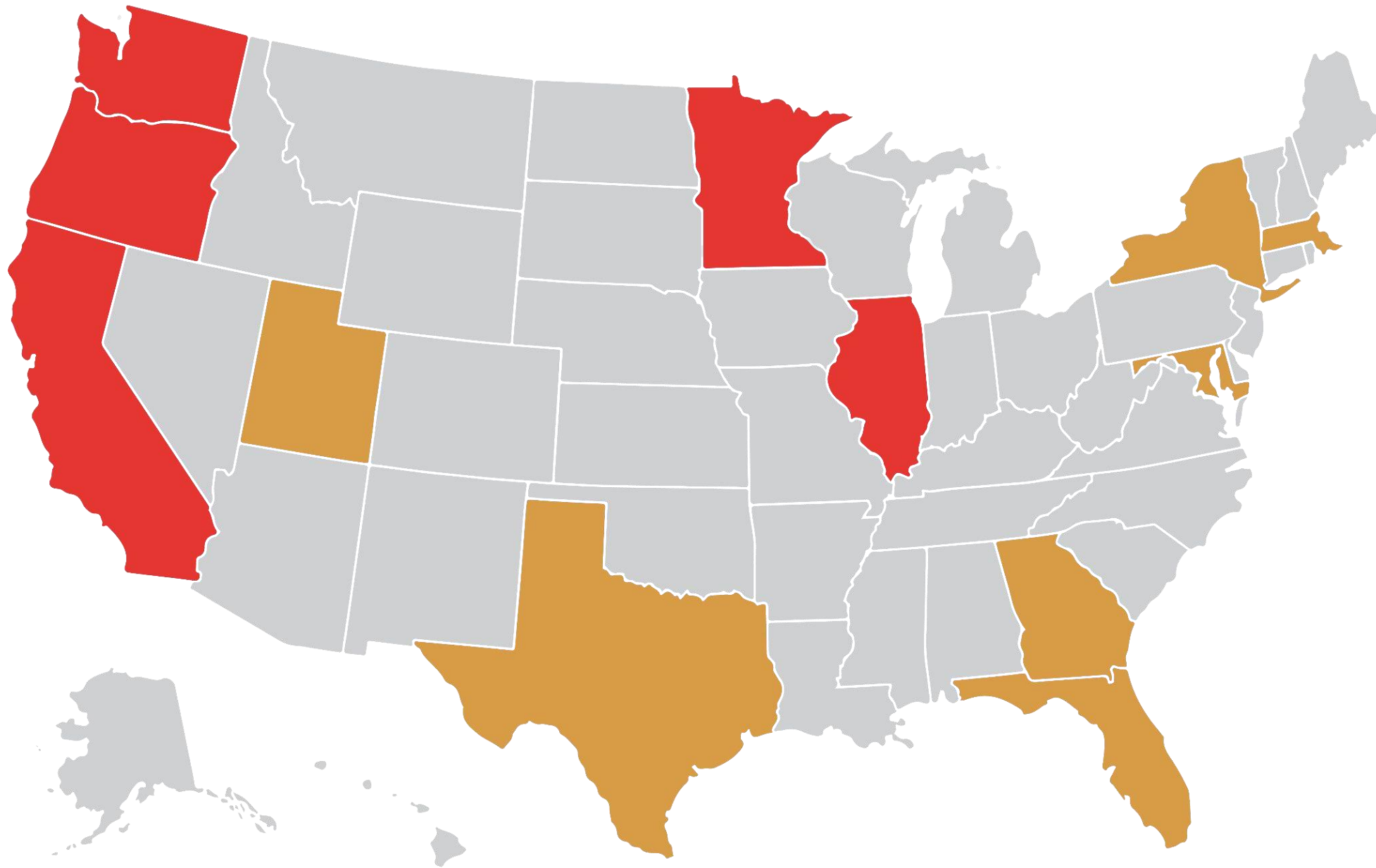
With more than 11,000 years returned in sentences voided.

Estimated State Savings:

1.05B

...can go to measures that **prevent crime to begin with.**





Prosecutor-Initiated
Resentencing

Nationally

PIR Laws Passed

- CA
- IL
- MN
- OR
- WA

PIR Laws Proposed

- MD
- TX
- GA
- NY
- MA
- FL
- UT

ABA Resolution 504

Adopted in August 2023

Urges federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal governments to adopt **Prosecutor-Initiated Resentencing** legislation that permits a court at any time to recall and resentence a person to a lesser sentence upon the recommendation of the prosecutor of the jurisdiction in which the person was sentenced.





The Future of PIR



Special Initiatives



Together Home

We're working on an initiative to examine more **women's cases**. Most incarcerated women are mothers, and women are the fastest-growing prison population.



PIR Legal Clinic

We started the first **legal clinic** in the country to help prosecutors do this work. Now, it's gaining steam in CA and MN.



Data Automation Tool

With UC Berkeley, we developed the **first data automation tool** to help prosecutors review prison files and make the process more seamless.



FOR THE PEOPLE
info@forthepppl.org

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