



# WHY DOES GOOD TIME MAKE GOOD SENSE?

TALKING POINTS TO PREPARE YOU FOR DISCUSSING “GOOD TIME”

## WHAT IS ‘GOOD TIME’?

- PROVIDES A SYSTEM OF CREDITS TO BE EARNED BY INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS WHO DEMONSTRATE BEHAVIORAL CHANGE IN MEASURABLE WAYS
- ENCOURAGES COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNING POLICIES AND PARTICIPATION IN AVAILABLE PROGRAMS TO REDUCE ONE’S SENTENCE AT A PRESCRIBED RATE
- INCENTIVIZES REHABILITATION FOR THOSE WHO MAKE AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE THEMSELVES AND REENTER SOCIETY A TRANSFORMED PERSON

## OTHER FAQs

### IS THIS A LIBERAL OR CONSERVATIVE EFFORT?

THIS IS A BI-PARTISAN EFFORT, SUPPORTED BY BOTH SIDES; 76% OF CONSERVATIVES SUPPORT BRINGING BACK GOOD TIME, 86% OF MODERATES, AND 89% OF LIBERALS.

### DOES THIS APPLY TO ALL WHO ARE INCARCERATED?

IT APPLIES EQUALLY TO ANYONE WHO HAS A RELEASE DATE. WE ARE WORKING HARD TO ALLOW THOSE WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED THEIR REHABILITATION BY THEIR BEHAVIOR AND HAVE SHOWN THAT THEY ARE SAFE TO RETURN TO SOCIETY.

### WILL THIS MAKE THE WORLD A MORE DANGEROUS PLACE?

GOOD TIME POLICIES HAVE BEEN DEMONSTRATED TO INCREASE PUBLIC SAFETY BY LOWERING RECIDIVISM RATES AMONG THOSE WHO EARN GOOD TIME. ([scholarship.law.marquett.edu](http://scholarship.law.marquett.edu))

### WHAT ABOUT THE VICTIMS?

8 OF 10 VICTIMS SUPPORT REDUCING PRISON SENTENCES FOR PEOPLE IN PRISON WHO PARTICIPATE IN REHABILITATION, MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, OR EDUCATIONAL OR VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS. ([allianceforsafetyandjustice.org](http://allianceforsafetyandjustice.org))

### HOW DOES THIS AFFECT ME?

INTRODUCING A ‘GOOD TIME’ LAW BENEFITS ALL MICHIGAN RESIDENTS. IT SAVES TAX-PAYER MONEY, PROVIDES INCENTIVE, AND REHABILITATION TO THOSE INCARCERATED, REUNITES FAMILIES, AND REDUCES THE LIKELIHOOD OF REPEAT OFFENSES, PROMOTING A SAFER SOCIETY.

### IS MICHIGAN THE ONLY STATE THAT REQUIRES INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE A MINIMUM SENTENCE?

YES, MICHIGAN IS THE ONLY STATE IN AMERICA THAT REQUIRES PEOPLE TO SERVE THEIR ENTIRE MINIMUM SENTENCE. ([safeandjustmi.org](http://safeandjustmi.org))

## DID YOU KNOW?

MICHIGAN IS 1 OF 6 STATES IN THE COUNTRY WITHOUT A GOOD TIME POLICY FOR OUR INCARCERATED PRISON CITIZENS  
([prisonfellowship.org](http://prisonfellowship.org))

MICHIGAN IS #1 IN THE COUNTRY FOR LENGTH OF TIME SERVED  
([urban.org](http://urban.org))

DESPITE HAVING THE LONGEST PRISON SENTENCES, MICHIGAN IS STILL #2 IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE NUMBER OF REPORTED RAPES  
([ucr.fbi.gov](http://ucr.fbi.gov))

MICHIGAN IS #1 IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE PERCENTAGE OF OUR STATE BUDGET SPENT ON CORRECTIONS (3.9% VS NATIONAL AVERAGE OF 2.5%)  
([nasbo.org](http://nasbo.org))

