

Dear Senate Committee,

I am writing on behalf of my Fiancé, his family and I in regards to the reform of Measure 11 by reducing mandatory minimums.

My Fiancé Leonel was incarcerated and sentenced in 2016, and has served 5 years out of his 15 year sentence. Leonel has 2 children who he adores but due to the Covid restrictions affecting visitation he has been unable to see his children or his family.

Leonel is a role model inmate who doesn't engage in any negative behaviour that would jeopardise the little he is entitled too while serving time. Leonel works and has been working for quite some time. He is also looking at doing a few courses in the near future once Covid restrictions are lifted. He is respectful to the other inmates and to the prison staff and is always offering to help others. Leonel has earned 1 year good time, which will hopefully work in his favour when he is transferred from State to Federal prison in years to come.

Leonel fills his days with activities that benefit his health and well-being, like focusing on his fitness whilst helping others achieve their fitness goals. I believe through his actions and his words that he is genuinely a changed man and would benefit being on supervised release where he can work, pay his debts, build his future and most importantly take care of his family and children rather than wait for his mandatory minimum to be served. In saying that I am also hoping to move to the US from Australia when Leonel is released.

Please vote yes to the amendment of measure 11 and help both Leonel and other inmates return to their loved ones and give them the chance to prove themselves once released just like they have proved themselves while incarcerated and give them the chance to rehabilitate and positively contribute to society.

Kind regards
Charmaine