

In support of SB191

Greetings and Well Wishes

My Name is Galvan Lomboy #11775109 and I am an Adult in Custody (AIC) at the Snake River Correctional Institution (SRCI) in Ontario, OR. I came to SRCI in 2005 as a 26 year old struggling methamphetamine addict who had just been convicted of the longest string of armed robberies in the history of the state. I have decided to write as I am nearing the end of my sentence and would like to offer a point of view on Measure 11 from someone who has served 16 years under mandatory minimum sentencing and will be returning to society regardless of a "yes" or "no" vote on SB191.

My first four years in prison under M11 had me feeling very helpless and feeling loss of hope, ambition and drive to change. Quite frankly I knew that no matter what I did, what education I got, what programs I did or how well I behaved, nothing would ever get me out early. I ignored the rules and did what I wanted including tattooing other AIC's and I was good enough at what I was doing to not get caught and I landed on the "honor" housing list. I was next in line for honor housing after waiting 18 months when I was arrested for tattooing another AIC. My then unit officer and a sergeant approached me and told me I was at a serious crossroads and asked what kind of life I wanted for myself. They told me I was looking at either six months in the hole and going back to general population, or, if I promised to change and go to honor housing and participate in rehabilitative programs they would allow me to move to honor housing within a week and wipe my slate clean. That one moment in my life of their professional judgement, compassion and mercy changed the entire direction of my life. They could have penalized me severely, but their decision has me standing before you twelve years later with a history of paying that forward and acknowledging Officer Orosco and Sgt Webb for believing in me and accelerating my growth.

The Measure 11 social-economic impact:

-Since the implementation of measure 11 the prison population has grown at a rate 17.1% faster than the overall state population at 45.6% vs. 28.8%.

- The current cost to taxpayers to incarcerate one prisoner under measure 11 sentencing is \$116.89/day or, 42,664.85/yr.

-Approximately 5,829, or 47% of the 12,404 prisoners incarcerated in the state of Oregon are under mandatory minimum for a total annual cost of \$248,693,410.00 per year.

Housing inmates is a very expensive proposition and does nothing toward rehabilitating the individual. It is not cost effective. There is a definite difference in programming and rehabilitative tools that are available to each category of AIC. Measure 11 is for the state's most violent offenders, YET measure 11 AICs actually have less rehabilitative tools and programs available to them than Non Measure 11 AICs. Measure 11 sentencing disqualifies some of the state's most violent offenders from vital programs.

It all comes down to strategy: When it comes to keeping your neighbors, families, friends and community safe do you think it is best to continue a system of mandatory minimum sentencing with minimal rehabilitative programs to offset the cost of lengthy sentences, or would it be better to let the judges take a 2<sup>nd</sup> look at an inmate's rehabilitation and to use their judgement to allow fluid sentencing guidelines that allows more rehabilitative programs.

How I have been and am trying to pay it forward to society includes the following programs I have been involved in: