

Submitter: Kim Hopper

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure: SB320

I have learned for personal use experience how measure 11 not only is being used as an unreasonable punishment to first time offenders. I believe that first time offenders deserve a chance to earn good time as other AIC's that do not have measure of 11 do. I do support measure 11 for repeat offenders and agree that they a mandatory minimum sentence. However I have seen the damage first time offenders are caused from the lengthy sentences. Many AIC's that made their first mistake are now coming in out of prison with disabilities and other mental health issues due to the prolonged sentences and they deserve a chance to have the sentences reduced due to good conduct. In return this would help them be more self sufficient when released and not have to rely on as much government assistance because the damage caused from the long sentence would be reduced. It seems using Measure 11 on first time offenders taken them from a rehabilitation sentence to now a life long emotional and psychological struggle. These long sentences are also a burden on the family members and children that have their lives turned upside down as well. Many children are having to be brought without their moms and dads though out most of their lives because of the mandatory minimum being used against first time offenders. With good time, they would be able to be a more active participant in their children's lives. I strongly support the passing of this bill modifying measure 11 for first time offenders. Thank you for your time and consideration.