Submitter: Tyler Jones-Cizek

Senate Committee on Judiciary Measure: SB320

Re: SB 320

SB 320 is common sense. I support this bill.

Offenders sentenced under mandatory minimum sentences (measure 11) are sentenced solely based on measure 11 sentencing guidelines currently in place. This means their individual cases and crimes they committed are not looked at separately, and Judges have no discretion regarding sentencing, Judges do not get to consider individual circumstances of each crime committed. Measure 11 is a one size fits all approach to sentencing offenders. People are different, circumstances are different. People are not cut from the same mold, nor do they learn and rehabilitate in the same way either.

Voters need to be aware that current incarcerated individuals who were not sentenced under measure 11 earn use good time credits already. This is not a new concept. SB 320 is only asking for fair and equitable treatment, and that it be applied to all Adults in custody. SB 320 in fact, is a safer approach as a criterion must be met to earn these credits. The community does not need to worry as violent and repeat offenders will not be eligible for earning these good time credits. This will be harder to meet for measure 11 offenders and only the adults in custody who demonstrated they have worked hard on turning their lives around will qualify.

Voters may not know all earned good time credits for ALL ADULTS IN CUSTODY are already calculated on a monthly basis.

Voters may not know: Offenders risk of re-offending and risks to the public are already completed and are kept on file. Their counselor has all the reports on documented behavior inside the prison walls and with a push of a button can determine who qualifies for earning good time credits and who does not.

This should have no cost to the Department of Corrections or taxpayers.

Support SB 320 – lets make it fair for all.