



Parole Justice

A PRIMER ON THE ELDER PAROLE AND FAIR & TIMELY PAROLE BILLS

The safest communities have the best schools, health care, jobs and more – not the highest incarceration rates.

Endless punishment does nothing to keep our communities safe & costs a fortune. New York State spends up to \$240,000/year to lock up each older adult, money that could be spent on improving community health & safety: good jobs, vibrant schools, quality health care (including mental health care), stable housing & so much more. Parole justice will make our communities safer, reunite families, and save \$522 million dollars annually.

The Elder Parole (S2423/A2035) bill provides for parole release consideration, on a case-by-case basis, for people classified by DOCCS as older adults who have served at least 15 years. *The Fair & Timely Parole (S307/A162)* bill restores the Parole Board to its original purpose of evaluating people's readiness for release, rather than denying people based solely on their conviction.

Pass Parole Justice for...

Fairness: Investigations by The New York Times found Black people are far less likely to get released by the Parole Board than white people. Black & Latino/x people also receive lengthier sentences.

Crime Victims & Survivors: Leading crime victim advocates support parole reform. Surveys show most victims want more spending on violence prevention & rehabilitation programs, not endless incarceration. 95% of women and many men and non-binary people in prison, themselves, are crime victims and survivors.

Older Adults: 1-in-4 New Yorkers in prison are older adults, aging without dignity in unsafe conditions – at enormous costs. Studies show they pose little-to-no risk upon release. Many have become teachers, mentors, and non-profit leaders.

Faith & Redemption: Redemption is a core belief in every major religion. That's why more than 100 houses of worship and clergy organizations across New York State support parole justice.

The Elder Parole (S2423-Hoylman/A2035-Davila) & Fair & Timely Parole (S307-Salazar/A162-Weprin) bills will reunite families, make our communities safer & save \$522 million annually.