

Here is a screenshot of the front and back of our policy brief.

THE UNITED STATES HAS

LESS THAN 5% OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION

BUT ALMOST

25% OF THE WORLD'S PRISON POPULATION

YOUR vote makes the DIFFERENCE
The FIRST STEP Act: ✓

Changing American prison culture from **punishment** → **rehabilitation**

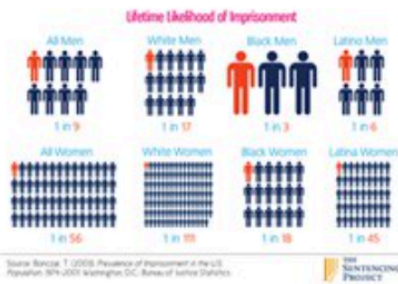
S. 2795: FIRST STEP Act
Sponsor: John Cornyn [R-TX]
Cosponsor: Sheldon Whitehouse [D-RI]
Cosponsor: Tim Scott [R-SC]

For every day a prisoner's sentence is reduced, Texas taxpayers have **\$22,012** back in their pockets per year per prisoner.

Released prisoners will be equipped with the tools to help improve society.

Why YOU should care:

- Money saved from prisons can be put to other resources like education.
- Prisons have become places of punishment rather than rehabilitation.
- America's problem of "mass incarceration" will be reduced.



5 Reasons to Vote YES:

1. Shift in prison culture
2. Saving Texas taxpayer money
3. Increasing the number of contributing members of society
4. Intends to implement rehabilitative programs in prisons using evidence-based assessments and programs
5. Reducing recidivism rate as a whole

Our goal should be to help prisoners reintegrate into society upon their release from prison.

Resources:

-Federal Bureau of Prisons. (n.d.). Retrieved October 11, 2018, from https://www.bop.gov/about/statistics/population_statistics.jsp

-Texas Prison Inmates. (n.d.). Retrieved October 11, 2018, from <https://www.texastribune.org/library/data/texas-prisons/>

-Number of prisoners in the U.S. 2016, by state statistic. (n.d.). Retrieved October 11, 2018, from <https://www.statista.com/statistics/203757/number-of-prisoners-in-the-us-by-states/>

-Vera Institute. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.vera.org/publications/price-of-prisons-2015-state-spending-trends/price-of-prisons-2015-state-spending-trends/price-of-prisons-2015-state-spending-trends-prison-spending>

Our Recommendations:

- Hire trained, professionals to implement these assessments to prisoners upon the beginning of their sentence
- Social Service/Mental Health Professionals should be hired to aid Attorney General in choosing appropriate needs assessment
- Prisoners should be housed based on the results from the needs assessment