

# Senate Bill 277 Testiony.pdf

Uploaded by: Cory McCray

Position: FAV

CORY V. McCRAY  
Legislative District 45  
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DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Budget and Taxation Committee

*Subcommittees*

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Pensions

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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 277**

**Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center – Division of Correction – Data 3 Requirement**

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I write to urge you to **support Senate Bill 277**. It is critically necessary that key agencies provide correctional services data to the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center (“the Center”) to increase efficiency within our public safety systems.

Under Senate Bill 277, The Division of Correction, which is within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, will be directed to provide the Center with information on arrest and incarceration data—including but not limited trends, metrics, and other related items. Organizations, like the Abell Foundation, find that more information is needed on parole, probation, and other inmate-related factors. It is necessary that we implement measures to ensure more efficient research-based efforts and an overall shared understanding of incarcerated populations. In requiring the Division of Correction to submit correctional services data to the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center, we will accomplish this, as well as foster an environment of systemic transparency and awareness.

Access to specific arrest and incarceration data would provide the Center and other appropriate agencies with critically important information on inmates—as individuals and as an aggregate. It is one step that will greatly impact the trajectory of our efforts in analyzing information on incarcerated populations and supporting our public safety systems.

If enacted, Senate Bill 277 will take effect on July 1, 2022, and will require the adoption of new practices in accordance with the change in law.

For the aforementioned reasons, I respectfully request a favorable report of Senate Bill 277.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cory V. McCray".

Cory V. McCray

State Senator, 45<sup>th</sup> District

# **SB0277 - 2.10.22-- Maryland Longitudinal Data Syst**

Uploaded by: Donald Fry

Position: FAV



**TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE SENATE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE**

**SENATE BILL 277 – MARYLAND LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM CENTER –  
DIVISION OF CORRECTION – DATA REQUIREMENT**

**Sponsor: Senator McCray**

**February 10, 2022**

**DONALD C. FRY  
PRESIDENT & CEO  
GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE**

**Position: Support**

Senate Bill 277 would require the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to share data with the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center to track the long term incarceration and recidivism outcomes for formerly and currently incarcerated individuals. The correctional service data would be used to track an individual's participation in education and training programs, work release participation, need for support related to housing, health care, substance abuse treatment, etc, demographic data such as age, race and gender, and recidivism rates.

The GBC supports Senate Bill 277 because it would provide key metrics to identify those justice involved individuals best prepared to return to the workforce. In the United States, almost one out of every three adults has a criminal record; that is roughly the same percentage of Americans with four year college degrees. While employers are hesitant to employ individuals with criminal backgrounds, the resulting effect is the underutilization of a massive percentage of the potential workforce. The GBC contends that this longitudinal data can help identify effective programs and initiatives to maximize the percentage of formerly incarcerated individuals who can effectively return to the workforce. Identifying the best practices for aiding former inmates return to work is a key factor in reducing recidivism and unlocking the workforce potential of returning citizens.

This bill is consistent with a key tenet in *Gaining a Competitive Edge: Keys to Economic Growth and Job Creation in Maryland*, a report published by the GBC that identifies eight core pillars for a competitive business environment and job growth.

**Workforce that is highly-educated and meets Maryland's business needs.** Maryland's secondary and higher education institutions must offer access to quality instruction at all levels and cultivate a workforce that is well-suited to a modern economy and to the specific needs of Maryland's business sectors.

Meeting Maryland's business needs requires the mobilization of the entire workforce. Initiatives to promote best practices in fostering beneficial return to work outcomes for formerly incarcerated individuals is crucial to that end.

**For these reasons, the Greater Baltimore Committee urges a favorable report on Senate Bill 277.**

*The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) is a non-partisan, independent, regional business advocacy organization comprised of hundreds of businesses -- large, medium and small -- educational institutions, nonprofit organizations and foundations located in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties as well as Baltimore City. The GBC is a 67-year-old, private-sector membership organization with a rich legacy of working with government to find solutions to problems that negatively affect our competitiveness and viability.*

**GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE**

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**SB277\_MD Center on Economic Policy\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Kali Schumitz

Position: FAV

# Data on Jobs and Cost-Of-Living of Incarcerated Marylanders Is Key For Policy Reform

## Position Statement Supporting Senate Bill 277

*Given before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee*

The reintegration of people leaving incarceration into their communities, particularly juveniles, can be filled with difficulties. Those who have little to no wrap-around services upon reintegrating face tremendous obstacles getting adequate support. Research shows that recidivism rate for youth can exceed 76% in certain cases<sup>1</sup>. **The Maryland Center on Economic Policy supports Senate Bill 277 because requiring that the Division of Corrections, among other agencies, to provide data for the Maryland Longitudinal Data Center research initiative can give insight into the ways our educational, welfare, and corrections systems can be improved.**

Tracking incarceration and recidivism rates, along with several other metrics from the Division of Corrections, the Department of Labor, and the Maryland State Department of Education can provide a holistic view into the experiences of returning citizens, particularly juveniles, with state programs. Metrics such as student data, child and family welfare services, and workforce data can enhance this understanding. Furthermore, this data will provide lawmakers and the public with the information needed to evaluate the state's current policies. This information could inform the development of more equitable policies and set up formerly incarcerated people for greater success up returning to their communities.

Lastly, members of the public join the Center's Governing Board will help ensure that directly affected communities can provide their input.

**For these reasons, the Maryland Center on Economic Policy respectfully requests the Judicial Proceedings Committee to make a favorable report on Senate Bill 277.**

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### Equity Impact Analysis: Senate Bill 277

#### *Bill Summary*

Requires the Division of Corrections, among other agencies and institutions, to provide data to the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center for the purposes for researching education and workforce development outcomes for incarcerated and returning citizens.

#### *Background*

This bill intends to track incarceration and recidivism outcomes, among other social metrics, to increase the efficacy of the treatment, management, and rehabilitation of inmates confined in correctional facilities.

### *Equity Implications*

- Our state’s reliance on incarceration has put too many Marylanders of every racial and ethnic background behind bars and disrupted communities in every part of our state. At the same time, these harms fall far more heavily on some than on others. For example:
  - 7 out of 10 Marylanders incarcerated in state prisons are Black, compared to three out of 10 Marylanders overall.
  - Marylanders who identify themselves as American Indian/Alaska native constitute 0.24 percent of our state’s total population, but 0.52 percent of Marylanders in state prison.
- The lack of rehabilitation and welfare programs lead to high recidivism rates, particularly youth who, in some cases, see a 76% recidivism rate.

### *Impact*

Senate Bill 277 will likely **improve racial and economic equity** in the state by providing the data needed to inform more effective policies.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/23501>

**SB277 - MLDSC - LOI.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jennifer Beskid

Position: INFO



## Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

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**BILL: SENATE BILL 277**

**POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION**

**EXPLANATION:** This bill requires the Division of Correction (DOC), within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Department), to exchange correctional services data information with the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center (Center) and establish the duration of data retention. The bill also allows for correctional services data to be collected by the Center, for the Center to conduct certain research, and adds the Secretary of DPSCS as a member of the Center's governing board.

### **COMMENTS:**

- The Department's Division of Correction (DOC) operates 13 State correctional facilities that house offenders sentenced to incarceration for 18 months and longer. The Department also runs the Baltimore City Pretrial Complex which houses pretrial detainees and inmates
- Section 3-608 (2) of the bill that seeks to require DPSCS to track and share data related to incarceration and recidivism outcomes is misplaced as it has nothing to do with the sharing of information with other agencies. Nor are the terms "incarceration and recidivism outcomes defined.
- The proposed definition of "correctional services data" under § 24-701(d) is broad and refers to "arrest and incarceration data" which includes criminal history record information that DPSCS is prohibited from sharing under Criminal Procedure Article § 10-219. Further, the DOC does not maintain arrest data.
- SB 277 includes the definition of "correctional services data" under student data and provides the data will serve as a central repository of student data.
  - Correctional services data is NOT student or workforce data.
  - The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) does not allow the creation of mini-repositories of criminal history record information.
- The Department utilizes an Offender Case Management System (OCMS), an integrated case management information system that compiles

information about an incarcerated individual. On an annual basis, the Department can generate a report containing a breakdown of the individuals released from the DOC within a certain timeframe to share with the Center that includes:

- Age
- Gender
- Race
- Type of offense
- Length of sentence
- Type of release

● In addition, it should be noted that the Department of Labor (Labor) provides educational services for individuals participating in GED programs; therefore, educational data should be provided to the Center by Labor and the Maryland State Department of Education from existing data sources.

● SB 277 adds the Secretary (or designee) as a member of the Center's governing board which would assist in providing additional oversight and analysis of the data that is shared and how it can be used.

● The Department understands the Center's mission of providing accurate student performance and workforce development data that can be used to improve the State's educational system, and will work with the Center to provide data on incarcerated individuals that can be shared in a usable manner. **This could be accomplished by simply entering into a data user agreement without legislation.**

**CONCLUSION:** For these reasons, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services respectfully requests the Committee consider this information and amendments as it deliberates Senate Bill 277.