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Problem: Probation needs to be reformed in Georgia



433,000 people

are on probation and parole in Georgia.



1 in 18 adults

is under community supervision compared to 1 in 58 nationally. **More than three times the national average.**

Average of 6.3 years on probation

Individuals in Georgia spend more than twice as long on probation than individuals in the rest of the country - **national average of 3 years.**



40% of sentences exceed 10 years

Many states have a cap on the amount of years an individual can be sentenced to probation, but not Georgia.

Problem: Probation needs to be reformed in Georgia



Solution:

Make probation reforms of 2017 work

PROBATION 2017 FACTS

- The GA General Assembly created Behavioral Incentive Dates (BID).
- BIDs create a pathway to earn termination through good behavior.
- Since 2017, despite 50,316 cases being eligible for BID only 213 cases have been early terminated.
- Three years later, Georgia still has the largest number of citizens on probation and parole in the country.

Problem: Probation needs to be reformed in Georgia



Solution:

Eliminate automatic arrests for technical violations

WHY ELIMINATE AUTOMATIC ARRESTS?



12,000 people are incarcerated on any given day in Georgia due to **TECHNICAL VIOLATIONS** at an annual cost of \$194 million.



HIGH RECIDIVISM

Lengthy supervision contributes to high recidivism given the risk of a simple mistake even when there is no threat to public safety.



PRISON ADMISSIONS

Probation/parole revocations account for 25% of prison admissions in Georgia.

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Solution:

Cap probation sentences

WHY CAP PROBATION?

Long probation sentences **DO NOT INCREASE PUBLIC SAFETY** and make rehabilitation and reintegration difficult.

Department of Community Supervision
Data shows diminishing returns after
1.5 TO 2 YEARS OF PROBATION.



Problem: Probation needs to be reformed in Georgia 

Solution:

Limit split sentences

WHY LIMIT SPLIT SENTENCES?

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Georgians are often sentenced to **TWO CONSECUTIVE FORMS OF CORRECTIONAL CONTROL.**



First, they are sentenced to a period of time **BEHIND BARS**, potentially followed by parole.



Then, they serve a **SECOND SENTENCE OF PROBATION.** This subsequent probation sentence in Georgia **AVERAGES 10 YEARS.**

Problem: Driver's license suspensions need to be reformed



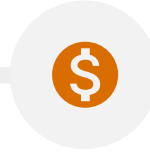
Every year **Georgia suspends over 200,000 driver's licenses for unpaid debt** (traffic tickets and child support debt).



In GA, 87% of jobs require a driver's license. Almost **half of the people whose licenses are suspended lose their jobs.**



Driving on a suspended license is the **#1 reason for arrest, wasting police time and resources.**



Once a driver's license is suspended, there is a nonwaivable \$100 reinstatement fee, adding **additional financial burdens to individuals already struggling to make a living.**

Over 50,000 people are arrested for driving on a suspended license each year. Black drivers are 7 times more likely to be arrested than White drivers in some counties. The penalty is 2 days to 12 months in jail and a fine of \$500-\$1,000.



Problem: Driver's license suspensions need to be reformed 

Solution:

Eliminating the nonwaivable license reinstatement fee for low-income Georgians will help them keep their license so they can work.



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Over 50,000 people are arrested for driving on a suspended license each year. In some counties Black drivers are 7 times more likely to be arrested than White drivers. The penalty is 2 days to 12 months in jail and a fine of \$500-\$1,000.

Problem: Driver's license suspensions need to be reformed 

Solution:

Eliminate the suspension of driver's licenses for the inability to pay minor traffic offenses and child support debt.



Every year **Georgia suspends over 200,000 driver's licenses for unpaid debt** (traffic tickets and child support debt).



In GA, 87% of jobs require a driver's license. Almost **half of the people whose licenses are suspended lose their jobs.**

How to Help



Contact your Georgia Reps

www.senate.ga.gov

www.house.ga.gov



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www.gjp.org