

MN PRIMARY CAREGIVER BILL



2020

BACKGROUND

Over the past forty years, the US incarceration rate has increased by 500% leading to 1 in every 12 children to experience parental incarceration (The Sentencing Project). Families with a member involved in the criminal justice system are significantly more likely to experience: financial instability, housing instability, relationship and bonding disruption, increased childhood mental health disorders, and decrease in youth academic achievement (Annie E. Casey Foundation).

THE PRIMARY CAREGIVER BILL

Minnesota's Primary Caretaker Bill will increase judges' discretion to authorize alternatives to incarceration for eligible primary caretakers of minor children. When community-based alternatives to incarceration are available, individuals can care for their families while healing and advancing their lives in a way that addresses root causes such as addiction, poverty, and lack of opportunity and simultaneously deal with the consequences of their conviction.

Goals of this legislation include:

1. Ending family separation due to incarceration in Minnesota
2. Increase use of community-alternatives to incarceration that better address driving factors of incarceration
3. Reduce overall prison populations in Minnesota



WANT TO GET INVOLVED? CONTACT
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