

Michigan Joint Task Force on Jail & Pretrial Incarceration's 18 Legislative Recommendations

Safe & Just
Michigan

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1 Massively reduce arrests by limiting driver's license suspensions to offenses directly related to driver safety.



3 Expand officer discretion to use appearance tickets as an alternative to arrest; create a presumption of citation for 90-93 day misdemeanors.



5 Divert people with behavioral health to treatment & dedicate funding for diversion to law enforcement, service providers & community organizations.



7 Provide and fund behavioral health crisis response training for law enforcement, dispatch and jail officers.



9 Reform bail system to establish presumption of release on personal recognizance or non-monetary release conditions in many or most cases.



11 Limit use of restrictive pretrial release conditions, such as drug testing, electronic monitoring and in-person check ins.



13 Reduce incarceration for simple misdemeanors by creating the presumption they should not result in incarceration.



15 Reduce the length of probation/parole supervision; raise thresholds for parole/probation revocation as punishment for technical violations.



17 Invest in services and supports for crime victims; train law enforcement in best practices for interviewing crime victims & survivors.

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Reclassify some misdemeanors as civil infractions, including non-moving traffic violations that don't involve intoxication.



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4 Reduce use of bench warrants for failures to appear, failure to pay court fines, fees & child support, among other changes.



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6 Make Jail Overcrowding Act proactive by authorizing sheriffs to divert & release some incarcerated people.



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8 Shorten time people spend in jail between arrest and arraignment to 24 hours, extendable to 48 hours with good cause.



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10 For people still detained 48 hours after arraignment: provide due process hearing to determine if conditions of release were unattainable.



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12 Strengthen speedy trial laws; require defendants to be tried within 18 months, absent waiver, acquiescence or agreement.



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14 Presume non-jail & non-probation sentences for less serious misdemeanors; eliminate mandatory jail sentences for all misdemeanors.



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16 Address financial barriers to compliance; reduce fine amounts & require that those unable to pay be allowed community service.



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18 Standardize criminal justice data collecting and reporting at the state and local levels.



To read the full report and recommendations, please visit <http://bit.ly/JailsTaskForce>