

MARYLAND ALLIANCE FOR JUSTICE REFORM

Working to end unnecessary incarceration and build strong, safe communities



MAJR General Meeting

Wednesday 11/15/17
6:00pm - Potluck Supper
7pm-9pm General Meeting

Stony Run Friends Meeting
5116 N Charles St.
Baltimore, MD 21210

**Join us at our General Meeting to discuss and plan...
and bring a friend!**

Frontdoor issues, for example ...

- Bail Reform
- Use of Risk Assessment Tools
- Citations in lieu of Arrest
- ...add your own initiatives

Behind the Wall issues, for example ...

- Solitary Confinement
- Education & Vocational Training
- Parole for Lifers
- ...add your own initiatives

Backdoor issues, for example ...

- Collateral Consequences
- Ban-the-Box: Override Governor's Veto
- Certificates of Rehabilitation
- ...add your own initiatives

MAJR seeks rule change

Judges to limit response to technical violations of probation



When Maryland's Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) took effect on 10/1/17, it required trial judges to limit sentence lengths imposed for "technical violations of probation." Studies show that such brief sentences may be more effective in preventing future trouble than a longer sentence.

The proposed amendment is supported by MAJR, Maryland's Public Defender Paul DeWolfe, and Stuart Simms, former State's Attorney for Baltimore and former Maryland Public Safety Secretary. The enhanced rule is designed stop judges from issuing "no-bail" warrants, and preemptively imposing overlong sentences before a fair hearing can be held.

Read more in our [issue brief](#).

ACLU and the Maryland Legislature



A Civil Rights and Liberties Guide to the 2018 Legislative Session

ACLU-Maryland Announces its 2018 Agenda

Among the ACLU initiatives for the next legislative session are:

- **Pre-Trial Justice;**

The new rule passed in 2017 to protect the poor against unreasonable bail was an important and long-overdue step toward ensuring fairness in our criminal justice system and we will work to protect it from being undermined by the legislature.

- **Taking the Politics Out of Parole;**

Maryland needs to remove the Governor from the parole process, not only to help address the enormous human cost, but also to achieve

significant fiscal savings.

- **Solitary Confinement Reform;**

It is clear that Maryland overuses and misuses solitary confinement. It is time for a smarter and more humane approach!

- **Criminal Justice Reporting.**

In Maryland's Criminal Justice System Latinos and other persons of color are categorized as "white," which distorts the true racial disparities in criminal justice enforcement.

Read more about [ACLU priorities](#).

MAJR is a nonpartisan association of over forty community organizations and churches with members in every part of the state, formed to support justice reinvestment. Individual supporters include judges, attorneys, corrections professionals, as well as returning citizens, victims, and service providers.

Help us by forwarding this newsletter to your community!

Visit: <http://www.ma4jr.org>

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