

MARYLAND ALLIANCE FOR JUSTICE REFORM

Working to end unnecessary incarceration and build strong, safe communities



SAVE THE DATE!!



Join us in Annapolis to urge our legislators to support critical initiatives.

Register NOW for this event to reserve your space.

When do we lobby?

Wednesday, February 26

8:30am - 1:00pm

Where do we meet?

Senate West 1 Meeting Room

Miller Senate Office Building

11 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

What will we do?

8:30 -9:00 Lobby Day check-in and seating: Bagels, fruit, coffee & juice

9:00 - 9:30 Recognition of Senator Mike Miller and his contribution to Justice Reinvestment

9:30 – 10:00 Lobby Day presentation, partnering, practice

10:00-12:30 Visit offices of legislators

12:30 Return with feedback

MAJR will supply fact sheets and talking points. We are making your appointment right now. Legislators and their staff will be expecting you.

Among the initiatives we will be pursuing are:

Front Door:

Citations for Misdemeanors: Citations in lieu of arrest are widely embraced by law enforcement. Maryland can expand on its history of success in using this tool. See <http://www.ma4jr.org/citations/>

Education Reform: MAJR will work with Strong Schools MD, ACLU and other organizations in advocating for 2019 legislation that would reduce the “school to prison pipeline,” provide additional support for at-risk students, and improve education behind the walls. See: <https://www.ma4jr.org/strong-schools/>

Felony Murder Rule: Under the legal doctrine of felony murder, if someone dies as a result of a felony, anyone who participated in that felony is ruled as guilty as a killer—even if they themselves didn’t kill, didn’t foresee the killing, and never meant to kill anyone. In Maryland, felony murder is treated the same as a premeditated first degree murder in sentencing. MAJR is working for change. See: <https://www.ma4jr.org/felony-murder-rule/>

Behind the Walls:

Rewarding Educational Milestones: Maryland's prison system should use enhanced diminution credits to better encourage more inmate degrees and vocational certificates. "Every dollar invested in correctional education," a RAND study concluded, "saves nearly five in re-incarceration costs over three years." See: <https://www.ma4jr.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/EducationCredits.pdf>

Solitary Confinement Initiative. MAJR will support legislation of the Interfaith Action for Human Rights (IAHR) to limit the use of solitary. <https://www.ma4jr.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Solitary-Confinement.pdf>

Removing the Governor from the parole process for inmates with life sentences with the possibility of parole. MAJR will continue to support the legislation of the Restorative Justice Initiative. <https://www.ma4jr.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/2.3-parole-intro.pdf>

Back Door:

Re-entry Programs: Prisoner reentry is the process by which prisoners who have been released return to the community. Seamless reentry is an effective combination of services and resources that removes barriers and hurdles that prevent returning citizens from succeeding as productive and contributing members of society.

Women's Pre-Release Center: Work to restore the women's pre-release center in Baltimore City. Our partners include Out for Justice, Maryland Justice Project, and Maryland Prisoners' Rights Coalition.

Expungement: Work with the Job Opportunities Task Force (JOTF) to support the REDEEM Act and other expanded expungement laws. See <http://www.ma4jr.org/expungement-unit-rule/>

Register NOW for this event to reserve your space. Click [HERE](#) to register!

MAJR is a nonpartisan association of over fifty 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.

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