



Secular Maryland

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HB 1057 - SUPPORT

Correctional Services - Inmates - Labor, Job Training, and Educational Courses

Dear Chair Clippinger, Vice-Chair Moon, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Secular Maryland supports this bill. We oppose retribution that goes beyond deterrence as being an intrinsically unjust and short-sighted policy. For deterrence to be successful, and to try to break the cycle of recidivism, we need to be willing to make a meaningful effort to equip detainees with more options to do better for themselves and for society upon their release from detention. Upon release, prisoners should have good reasons to think that we genuinely want them to integrate into society as law abiding citizens at least as much as we wanted to punish them for their past wrong doing. This bill is on target in orienting our correctional services to pursue this goal and we hope to see it become law.

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