

Unfavorable Response to HB301

Diminution of Term of Confinement – 1st-Degree Rape & 1st-Degree Sexual Offense

Families Advocating Intelligent Registries (FAIR) seeks rational, constitutional sexual offense laws and policies for persons accused and convicted of sexual offenses. We are very concerned about the impact of this bill on community safety.

This bill's stated objective is to remove diminution credits from a wider range of sexual offenses. **The big flaw with this line of thinking is that somehow this is going to make our communities safer.**

If reducing diminution credits would make our communities safer, we would support it. However, this approach is short-sighted – it simply delays an inevitable release with less encouragement to obtain important tools for successful integration back into society.

If a person is dealing with a mental health issue or other circumstances that may potentially lend themselves to committing a new offense in the absence of intervention, our communities would be much safer if we could look for ways to encourage effective treatment and/or occupational training while serving time, and also (if need be) require specialized supervision restrictions or continued treatment once released.

We urge the committee to return an unfavorable vote for HB0301.

Sincerely,



Brenda V. Jones, Executive Director
Families Advocating Intelligent Registries