

I have been speaking with a few friends I have currently incarcerated and they all have said they would just appreciate the chance to even earn good time. They have stated that they have no reason to feel like doing anything good or obeying orders is worth it. I asked why they felt that way and they said it was because no matter how good they are nothing will come of it that no matter what they will have the date that they will get released. Ask me to relay the message of having the opportunity to get out early due to good behavior would help many of them and give them something to look forward to. For the people that don't believe this law should be amended and allow opportunities for those incarcerated I would like to understand why they don't agree with 99% of American laws offering good time? Obviously measure 11 isn't a direct correlation with the crime rates if only a few states have mandatory minimums. Some states that are the remaining ones with the minimums have even recently passed reforms getting rid of minimum sentences. Even the federal government has stated it is a rights issue and got rid of mandatory sentences so why do people feel that Oregon shouldn't follow the same footsteps as the rest of our country? Crime rates aren't dropping throughout the country because of Oregon's old laws. Please think about this. It's time for Oregon to use this opportunity to allow people to want to do better rather than waiting for it to come down from the federal government forcing this change. Yes people make mistakes but it's people voting against this bill making a mistake by preventing people who truly want to do better in life. That should be the individual's choice, not this law. This law is making them not want to bother trying which makes them get out and most likely end up going back.