

To whom it may concern,

My name is Robert and I am currently incarcerated at Snake River Correctional Institution. I am a first time offender serving a sentence that falls into the Measure 11 category. I personally feel that the fact that I do not get any 'good time' on my sentence is a hindrance to my rehabilitation process for a couple of different reasons. First of all, there is no incentive for people to stay out of trouble. Another reason is that not having good time makes it extremely hard and in some cases impossible for people to get into programs.

Talking with other adults in custody that are in prison for a measure 11 crime you often hear people say "I don't care, I don't get any good time anyway" in regards to going to the hole. This mindset easily rubs off on young individuals serving a day for day sentence. It is hard to get enough clear conduct to be able to get into a program when you fall into the cycle of being in and out of the hole. Which leads into my next point, that it is more difficult to get into programs when doing a day for day sentence.

I have been told time and time again that I have too much time left on my sentence to be able to qualify for programs. Even if you have years of clear conduct your release date still has to be within 10 years to get into any of the great programs that this prison has to offer. Such as HVAC and BCT. So even if when I

reach out and attempt to start my rehabilitation process I am told that I have to wait. What am I supposed to do while I wait? Fall into the politics of prison? This sounds like a step in the wrong direction to me.

If I were to be offered good time today I would be able to start my rehabilitation process immediately. Not only do I think that offering good time would give people incentive to rehabilitate but I believe it would make the prisons safer for others in doing so. I believe that a lot more people would be on the path to rehabilitation while being an influence on others to do the same. I believe that offering good time for Measure 11 cases would make the streets of Oregon safer because instead of people getting out of prison and reoffending, a larger percentage would parole rehabilitated. You might argue that offering good time for Measure 11's would cause more people to commit crimes. I would have to say that I don't hear of people thinking about how much time they would do before they commit a crime. Most crimes, including my own, are committed by young people that make a bad choice. And I think we need to have a chance to learn how to make positive decisions.

Thank you for taking the time out of your day to read what I have to say. I hope that these and all the benefits of giving measure 11 cases good time will be considered.

Sincerely
Robert Fountain