



Same time for the same crime?

“Truth in sentencing” incarcerates some far longer than others for the same convictions.

Problem

In 1998, Illinois passed a “truth in sentencing” law that limits the time a person can earn off their prison sentence. Before 1998, people in prison could earn as much as 50% of time off their sentences through good behavior and participation in programs. This was commonly called “good time.”

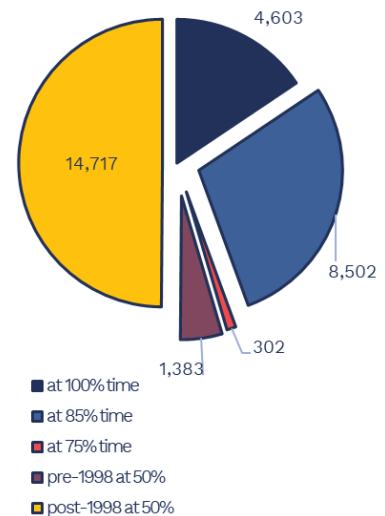
“Good time” incentivizes people to participate in restorative programming, which is one of the safest ways to reduce the prison population and prepare people to return home.

Today half of the people in IDOC can earn 50% off of their sentences. The others are required to serve 75, 85, or 100% of their sentences.

The number of people who have access to “good time” has gone down since Illinois enacted “truth in sentencing” in 1998.

Number of People in IDOC 12/22

Total=29,507



Current	Proposed
Most of those who are serving 100%	85%
85%	70%
75%	60%
LWOP, Terrorism at 100%	100%

Solution

HB 3901 would allow people sentenced under “truth in sentencing” to earn more “good time.”

Eligible people could earn up to 15% more time off of their sentences from what they currently can earn.

Ways to Earn Good Time

reentry & other programs

service to institution, community, or state

compliance with rules & regulations