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Governor

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**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF SENTENCING POLICY**

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**NEVADA SENTENCING COMMISSION
MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT
June 24, 2020**

Personal identifying information has been redacted

Public Comment #1:

From: Steven Moore
Subject: My Brother
Date: Fri 5/1/2020 9:29 PM

Hello good afternoon,

First off I would like to thank you all of you for the services that you guys provide.

Now during this time of being social distant, gloves, masks etc. I am just worried about my brother Charles Benjamin Moore health while being not at least 6 feet apart from others or not having masks or gloves. Charles Benjamin Moore is a good man he is not a threat to society and he has a loving family that is waiting for him to come home I hope that you guys can grant his release he deserves it.

Thank you very much for your time and have a safe wonderful MAY..

Public Comment #2

From: Sharon Williams
Subject: Public Comment on AB236 becoming retroactive. Thank you
Date: Fri 6/19/2020 2:21 PM

Hello Sir,

I have signed the successful Change.org petition asking for A.B. 236 to be made retroactive. If that became law, Dale would have a more just sentence based on his 69 grams being found in his truck in 2016 at age 39. He has been away from all of us for over 4 years now. He is not a violent man and is not a repeat offender. He has numerous skills and is currently taking advantage of Prison Industries at SDCC. Our petition to you has become our only hope.

Sharon Williams (asking on behalf of inmate Dale J. Kokoski.)

Public Comment #3

From: Mark Bettencourt
Subject: Sentencing Commission Public Comment
Date: Tue 5/26/2020 9:25 AM

Dear Nevada Sentencing Commission,

Nevada is stronger when all communities are taken care of and in the midst of this pandemic, no community can be sacrificed. As the Governor of Nevada, we are calling on you to take immediate action to protect Nevada's incarcerated population.

"Social distancing," is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19, yet it is nearly impossible to achieve in jails or prisons. We already know that it is impossible for people to effectively sanitize their hands without access to lathering soaps and hand sanitizers. In the event that someone contracts COVID-19 within a jail or prison, there is not adequate healthcare available to support them. There are no accessible tests or ventilators and not enough space to prevent the virus from spreading like wildfire within the facility. These health concerns facing our incarcerated populations extend further to impact the corrections officers and healthcare staff operating within these facilities. They are likely to spread the virus to their families and vulnerable communities every time they go home.

This Commission could take immediate action to decrease the harm and death among incarcerated individuals and across the state. We are asking you to:

1. Develop a COVID-19 response plan that sets real actionable goals and a swift timeline to reduce the jail and prison populations across the State. We can't wait until it is too late and must see leadership from this body for making county and state level plans.
2. Develop and implement early release processes with the Governor, Nevada Board of Pardons, and the Division of Parole and Probation. This should include immediately actionable plans for:
 - Release for all individuals who are currently eligible for parole but remain incarcerated;
 - Revising processes for lifting technical violations of parole and probation and expediting release;
 - Expediting medical parole and compassionate release, for those who are elderly or medically fragile;
 - Revise and expedite processes for clemency review and approval;
 - Revising sentences to time served and/or furloughs wherever possible.
3. Create emergency rules that adjust the rules for post-release housing and supervisions conditions.

The potential for a COVID-19 outbreak in our jails and prisons would strain our already overburdened first responders and hospitals. We must free our people in order to appropriately allow them to shelter in place with their families, and not in the close confinement of a jail cell.

Sincerely,
Mark Bettencourt

Public Comment #4

From: Cyan Larson
Subject: COVID-19 Testing of Inmates
Date: Mon 6/22/2020 8:27 PM

Dear Nevada Sentencing Commission,

My name is Cyan Larson. I am a passionate citizen from Salt Lake City, Utah. I am writing to you to free all inmates from your prisons, or at least reduce the prison population by releasing all non-violent offenders now. Prisons are COVID-19 hotspots. Prison should not be a death sentence for non-violent offenders that would die from lack of COVID-19 treatment. This is inhumane.

Free them all now.

Thank you

Public Comment #5

From: Amerique Phillips
Subject: Public Comment
Date: Tue 6/23/2020 6:37 AM

Dear sir, madam,

My name is Amerique Phillips and I would like to submit a public comment for the Nevada Sentencing Commission meeting on June 24, 2020. My statement is as follows:

With the renewed effort to test all inmates, rather than just a portion, there is the potential for a rise in COVID cases among inmates and staff. Such an increase requires a reduction of the prison population due to the lack of ability for inmates to be socially distant. Charles Daniels expressed concern with the lack of jobs, housing and other resources for inmates upon release. Should COVID cases increase, the public demands, that all present parties develop a re-entry plan with the Statewide Re-Entry Task Force. Grant money has been allocated through executive order in 2007 for this very purpose. We demand that the prison population be reduced and resources be allocated as best they can within the next 4-6 weeks. Not knowing what to do, is not an excuse to refrain from doing anything. A prison sentence is not a death sentence.

Thank you,

Public Comment #6:

From: Jeffrey Wang
Subject: COVID Concerns
Date: Tue 6/23/2020 8:36 AM

To whom it may concern,

With the renewed effort to test all inmates, rather than just a portion, there is the potential for a rise in COVID cases among inmates and staff. Such an increase requires a reduction of the prison population due to the lack of ability for inmates to be socially distant. Charles Daniels expressed concern with the lack of jobs, housing and other resources for inmates upon release.

Should COVID cases increase, the public demands that all present parties develop a re-entry plan with the Statewide Re-Entry Task Force. Grant money has been allocated through executive order in 2007 for this very purpose.

On June 24, the Nevada Sentencing Commission will be meeting once again to discuss the results of their recent COVID testing of inmates. They previously have refrained from testing inmates in order to keep their number of reported cases low. With the renewed testing efforts, the reported number of cases should increase. Thus, making the prison reduction so much more necessary.

We demand that the prison population be reduced and resources be allocated as best they can within the next 4-6 weeks. Not knowing what to do, is not an excuse to refrain from doing anything. A prison sentence is not a death sentence.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Wang

Public Comment #7:

From: Morgan Barney
Subject: Inmate COVID-19 Testing
Date: Tue 6/23/2020 10:17 AM

Hello,

My name is Morgan Barney and I am emailing to demand the urgent and immediate reduction of the prison population in Nevada. Now more than ever, it is imperative to the safety and health of our communities that the prison population is drastically reduced. Nevada knows COVID cases and COVID related deaths are rising, yet they have done nothing to reduce the population. The blood of these people are on your hands and everyone's hands who could save these people but choose not to. They are our friends, family members, siblings, parents, etc., and their lives are in danger.

Again, I am calling for the immediate reduction of the prison population in Nevada.

Thank you for your time,

Public Comment #8:

From: Z Long
Subject: Inmates in danger
Date: Tue 6/23/2020 11:23 AM

With the renewed effort to test all inmates, rather than just a portion, there is the potential for a rise in COVID cases among inmates and staff. Such an increase requires a reduction of the prison population due to the lack of ability for inmates to be socially distant. Charles Daniels expressed concern with the lack of jobs, housing and other resources for inmates upon release. Should COVID cases increase, the public demands that all present parties develop a re-entry plan with the Statewide Re-Entry Task Force. Grant money has been allocated through executive order in 2007 for this very purpose. We demand that the prison population be reduced and resources be allocated as best they can within the next 4-6 weeks. Not knowing what to do, is not an excuse to refrain from doing anything. A prison sentence is not a death sentence.

Public Comment #9:

From: Patricia Adkisson
Subject: Public Comment June 24th Meeting
Date: Tue 6/23/2020 10:03 PM

To Whom it May Concern,
Please see attached file and submit at Public Comment for the June.24, 2020 meeting.
Thank you in advance, Patricia Adkisson

CLICK LINK TO OBTAIN DOCUMENTS

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1N1JV0KXBdWyeTbn6fsOGD5n_Tcvy4TvL/view?usp=sharing

Public Comment #10

From: Josephine Leu
Subject: Public Comment June.24, 2020 Meeting
Date: Tue 6/23/2020 11:19 PM

I am submitting these documents on behalf of John Quintero for Public Comment. Please submit for the June.24, 2020 meeting.

Thank you,
Josephine Leu for John Quintero

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https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oiy_J9Tn4WH3UoKqc1ws5AebEWAXZTDP/view?usp=sharing

Public Comment #11:

From: Patricia Adkisson
Subject: Adkisson's Public Comment 6/24/2020
Date: Wed 6/24/2020 1:13 AM

To Whom it May Concern,

I am submitting the following documents on behalf of Michael Adkisson for Public Comment. Please submit the attached files/documents for the June.24, 2020 Sentencing Policy Commission meeting for Public Comment.

Thank you in advance,
Patricia Adkisson for Michael Adkisson

CLICK LINK TO OBTAIN DOCUMENTS

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dlg2Rq0REBYmnT_sldB-Pf8WUibkD3Uk/view?usp=sharing

Public Comment #12

From: Tonja Brown
Subject: June 24, 2020 Nevada Sentencing Commission Public Comment AB 236 from Tonja Brown and Bruce Birch
Date: Wed 6/24/2020 8:16 AM

Good Morning,

I have received calls and information from individuals who are incarcerated. Their concerns are regarding the passing of the 2019 AB 236 bill. This bill has precluded those who have been convicted of non violent crimes who were sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

I would ask this commission to accept my recommendation to consider changing AB 236 to include the wording "to be applied retroactively" . Some of the Offender's convictions are no longer felony crimes, if at all, by the passing of recent legislative bills into law.

I am including an attachment from Mr. Bruce Birch. Mr. Birch is asking to have this information be submitted for the June 24, 2020, Nevada Sentencing Commission meeting, Public Comment.

Please give these Offenders who have spent decades incarcerated a chance at their freedom let them what time they have left to spend time with their loved ones.

Respectfully,
Tonja Brown

CLICK LINK TO OBTAIN DOCUMENT

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-LjdIVP4nxGhSwBF9zLQbDhrahKCQbNt/view?usp=sharing>

Public Comment #13:

From: Patricia Adkisson
Subject: Public Comment for Sentencing Meeting
Date: Wed 6/24/2020 10:11 AM

Re; Held in State Prison for a Misdemeanor

The Questions raised by Michael Adkisson's Whistle Blower Complaint submitted to this commission, is a call to **action**. The N.D.O.C. admissions related to imprisonment in a State Prison for **misdemeanor** convictions, **expired** convictions, **discharged** convictions, and where **NO** conviction is under consideration is unlawful.

- The related costs to the taxpayer cannot be ignored!

During this time of National Crisis related to COVID-19 addressing these reported crimes, will serve to mitigate the fiscal crisis faced by our state, and the risk of exposure to Nevada citizens seeming held by N.D.O.C. without sufficient **statutory** authority. The Nevada Attorney General's failure to provide the N.D.O.C. with an Attorney General opinion related to imprisonment, where **NO** conviction is present, implicates interagency cooperation to perpetrate this described illegal administrative practice.

If our state officials refuse to address the Bad Acts reported, this matter needs to be forwarded to the Department of Justice and the U.S. Marshal's Office.

ALL LIVES MATTER!

Respectfully,
Josephine Leu