

**From:** [Faye Harasack](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** support for SB91 Criminal Justice Reform  
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As the friend of an Alaska citizen who has been incarcerated for more than 15 years, I am writing to express my full and enthusiastic support for SB 91: Criminal Justice Reform. From from talking with my friend about his experiences and those of the other inmates, I am very aware of how important it is that inmates be treated in a way that respects their humanity and gives them the best chance for success after their release. SB 91 supports reforms including individualized case management plans that addresses reentry concerns prior to an inmate's release. This process could help identify people with addictions and other disorder, and their treatment needs could be considered during incarceration and after release into the community. Using evidence-based programs that contribute to these goals will help our prison system become a positive force helping people to live up to their potential and make positive contributions to their communities.

I also applaud SB 91's emphasis on community services that support returning citizens, including peer support, employment and housing assistance, education, training, substance abuse and/or mental health treatment, case management, violence prevention, victims' services, food assistance, transportation, and evidence-based therapeutic practices that work with a person's motivation to commit crimes. All these services can make the crucial difference between a released inmate's re-offending, or being able to lead a productive life that make a positive contribution to society. I hope that the fact that these services will be at least partially supported by savings from criminal justice reform that are addressed elsewhere in the bill will make this plan acceptable to the Finance Committee.

Thank you for considering my comment.

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