

ALASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

House Judiciary Committee

October 23, 2017

COMMISSION PROCESS

Research	-	What works to reduce recidivism
Stakeholder outreach	-	Public meetings & discussions
System assessment	-	How is the system currently operating
Proposals from work groups	-	Debated and voted on at Commission meetings

GOALS of CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

- **Reinvest in Programs Proven to Reduce Recidivism & Protect Public Safety**
- **Implement Evidence-Based Pretrial Practices**
- **Focus Prison Beds on Serious & Violent Offenders**
- **Strengthen Probation & Parole Supervision**
- **Improve Reentry Programming**
- **Ensure Oversight and Accountability**

GOALS of CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Reinvest in Programs Proven to Reduce Recidivism & Protect Public Safety –

Reinvestment in FY17 & FY18

Substance Abuse Treatment	\$2,500,000
Reentry Support	\$3,000,000
Violence Prevention Programs	\$3,000,000
Two-year total	\$8,500,000

GOALS of CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Reinvest in Programs Proven to Reduce Recidivism & Protect Public Safety

Future Reinvestment 2019 - 2022

- **\$4,000,000** for treatment in CRCs
- **\$4,000,000** for treatment in prison
- **\$8,000,000** for treatment in the community and re-entry services (note about $\frac{1}{4}$ of this amount projected to come from Medicaid reform)
- **\$8,000,000** for violence prevention programs in the community

GOALS of CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Invest in Evidence-Based Pretrial Practices

Pretrial Enforcement	\$13,447,800
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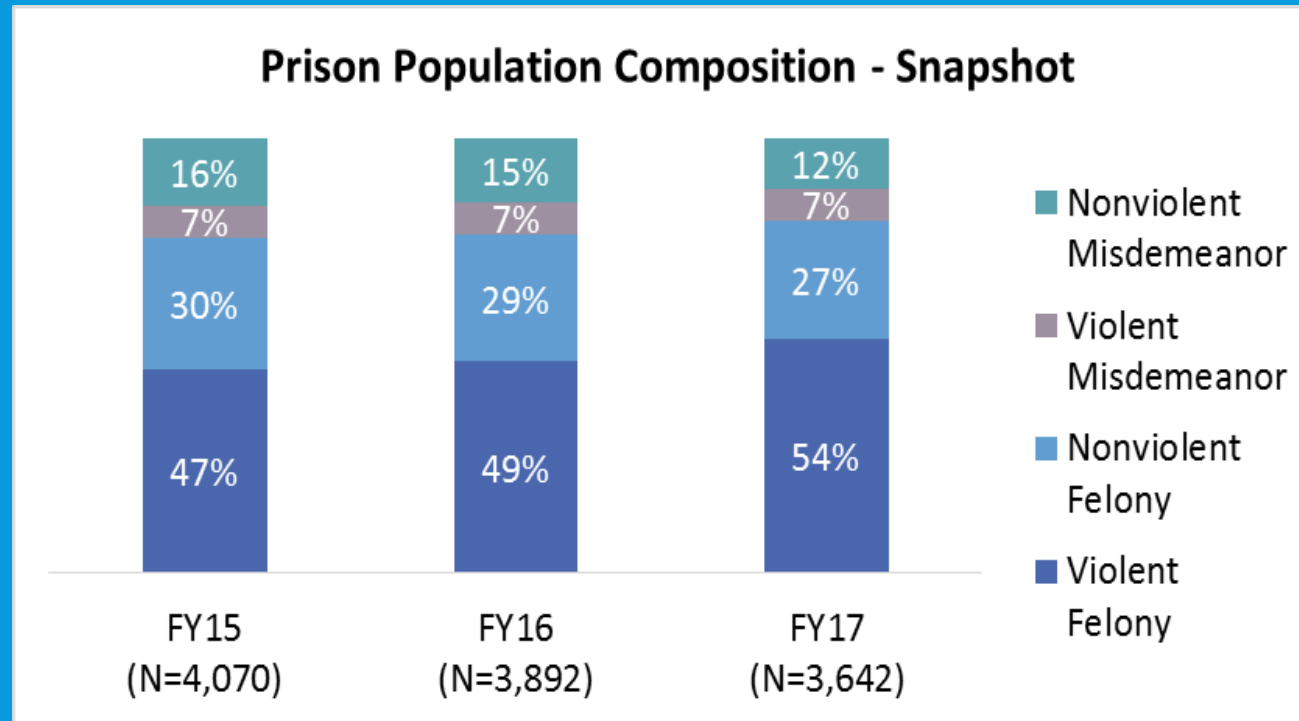
Beginning January 2018

EVIDENCE-BASED PRETRIAL PRACTICES

Pretrial Before and After SB 91 – What’s the Difference?	
<i>Pre-SB 91</i>	<i>Starting January 2018</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Release based on payment of bail to ensure appearance✓ Amount of bail set is used as a proxy for a defendant’s risk✓ No supervision of defendants who are released✓ Heavy reliance on civilian third-party custodians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Release based on results of a risk assessment and the offense✓ Risk assessment calculates a defendant’s risk of failure to appear and of a new arrest✓ Supervision (based on risk level) of defendants who are released✓ Restrictions on use of third-party custodians

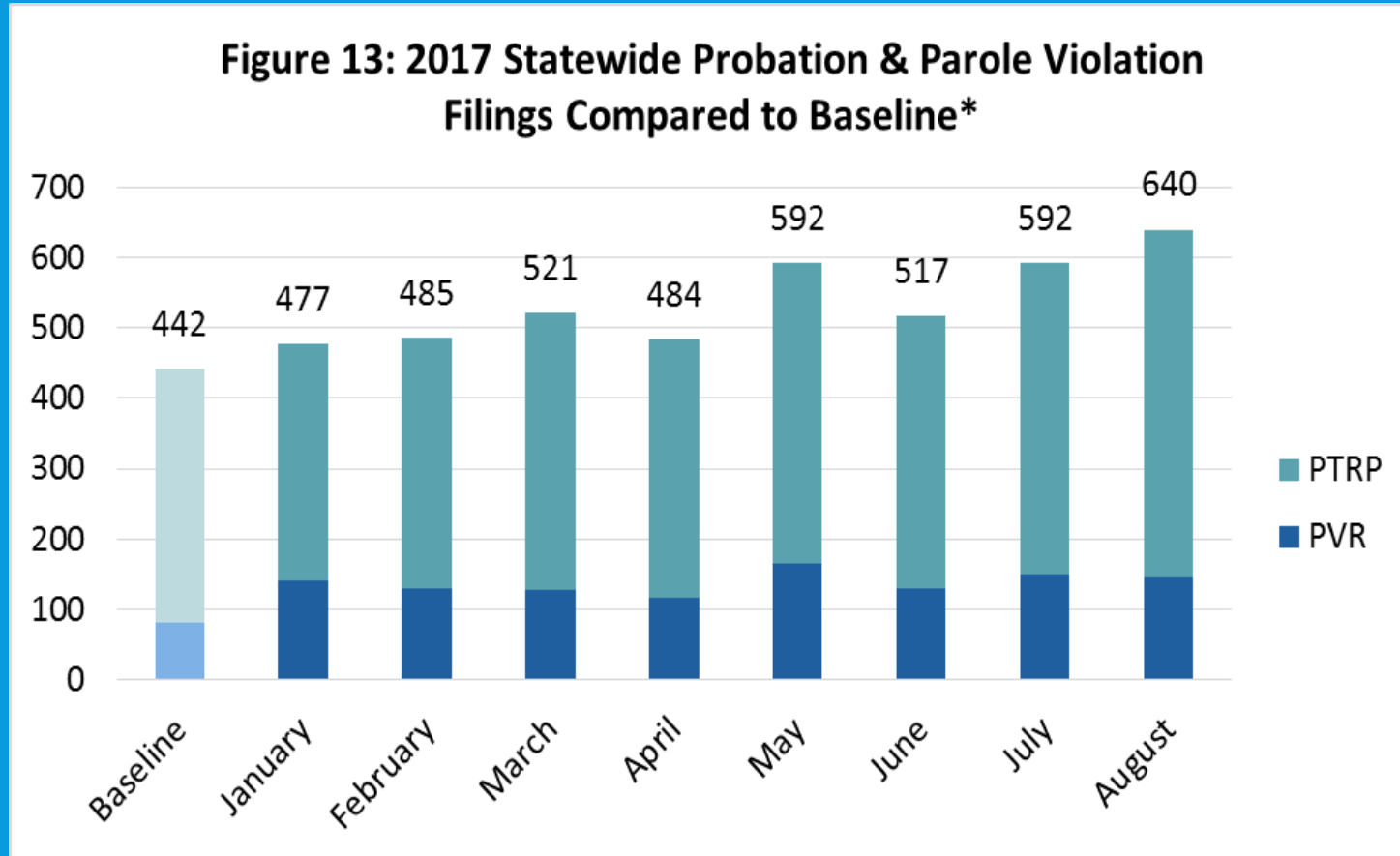
GOALS of CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Focus Prison Beds on Serious & Violent Offenders



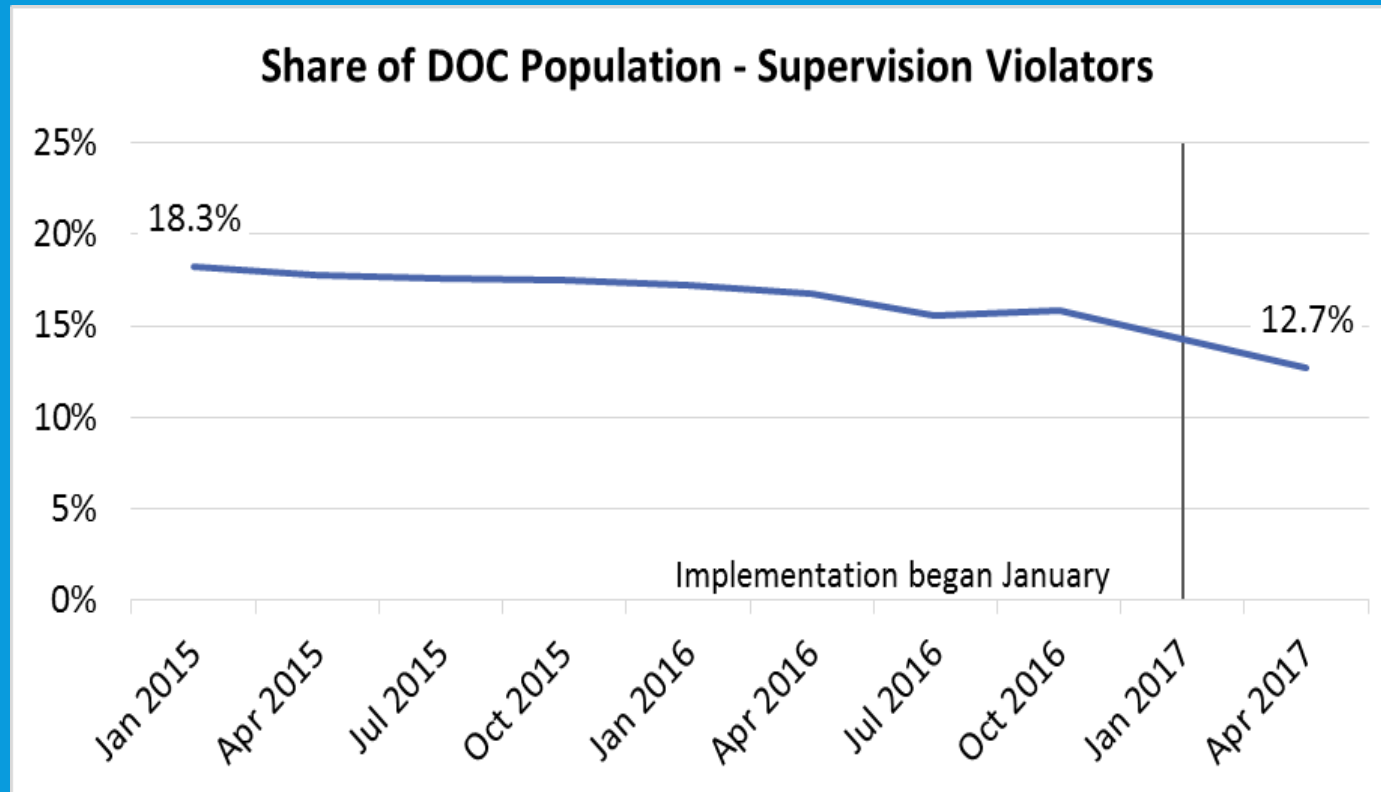
GOALS of CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Strengthen Probation & Parole Supervision

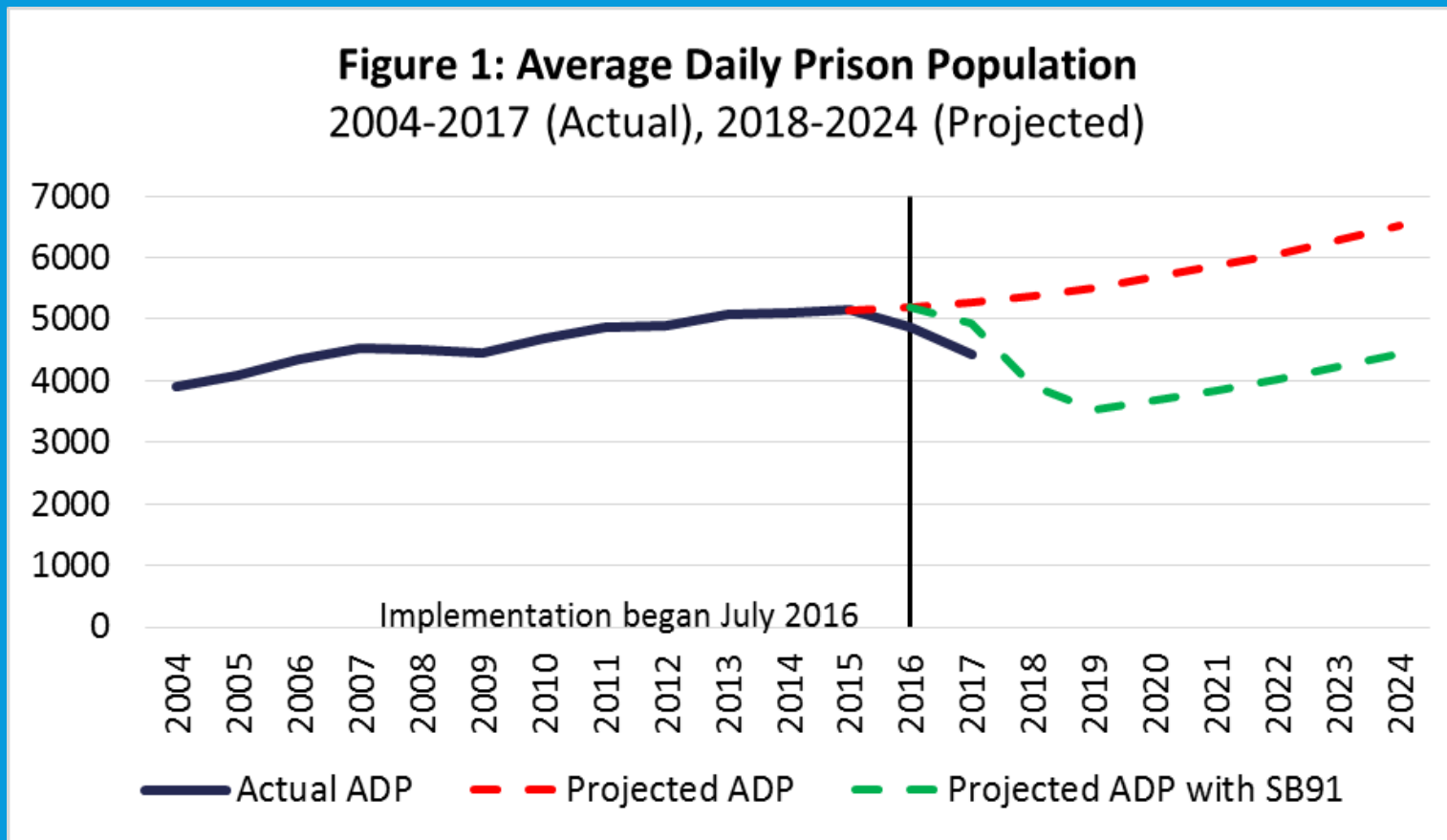


GOALS of CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Strengthen Probation & Parole Supervision



REDUCE PRISON EXPENSES WHILE PRESERVING PUBLIC SAFETY



PRISON POPULATION DECREASED 437 BEDS SINCE IMPLEMENTATION

- Avoided costs:
\$3.8 million in annual prison growth costs in FY17

Reduced operational costs:

- ✓ \$5.6 million saved by DOC's closure of the 500-bed Palmer Correctional Center (inmates were sent to other facilities);
- ✓ About \$42/day to house a prisoner

ALASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO SENTENCES

For first-time Class C Felonies

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Enact a 0-90 day presumptive sentencing range

Retain suspended time of up to 18 months

(Not unanimous)

CURRENT SB54 contains a zero-to-one year presumptive sentencing range

ALASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO SENTENCES

Return VCOR to misdemeanor status

B Misdemeanor

Punishable by up to 5 days in prison

Allow imposition of a term of probation

Increase penalties for repeat Theft 4 offenders (e.g., shoplifting)

Up to 10 days in jail for third-time offenders

Note: SB54 allows up to 10 days active time for third-time petty theft offenders, and also raises penalties for first- and second-time offenders to include active jail time

ARREST & INTOXICATION ISSUES

New project for the Commission

**How to handle people charged with crimes
who are intoxicated**

**At request of law enforcement, hospitals,
and other stakeholders**

**Complex legal, constitutional, policy, and
logistical issues**

THANK YOU

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