



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 728		DATE: 3/5/2025	
COMMITTEE: Crime and Public Safety			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: AMANDA CHEELY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANDRE MITCHELL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: iamdremitchbcmg@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2025 6:46 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHASTIDY GRAEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: chastidygraen7@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 4:10 PM
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As a former corrections officer, I believe this is an amazing bill, because if someone has committed a crime at the age of 18 and they are now in their 30's, they are no longer the person they use to be. I had several residents in Licking prison that I believe would be model citizens today. They are not the same kids who came to prison. I have seen several of these guys stand and cry because they are so sorry for the crimes they committed and they just desire to give back for their wrong doing. I pray that we are able to see this bill passed.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: christinachapman73@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 3:54 PM
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I am in agreeable of the good time bill, we have loved ones who have been locked up for longer then other individuals have, for instance a sex offender only has to do 85% but someone who just committed a robbery and didn't hurt any one is serving 20 years, come on now what is good for one should be allowed for the other, I am married to an incarcerated individual, and I suffer daily with brain tumor and seizures, and would benefit if he was home, he has well learned his lesson, and has completely changed, he went in as a young man who was single and had no one to care for him, to have a wife, 2 grown children and 4 grandchildren who adore him plus with him having asbergurs he has done more then excel in everything he has done, so the good time bill would be beneficial for him



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CURT WICHMER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-7239	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CATHOLIC CONFERENCE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 600 CLARK AVE. P.O. BOX 1022			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: wichmerc@mocatholic.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 12:50 PM

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Inmates serving a term of years should be provided gain time for good behavior as both a reward and an incentive.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAMIEN RAY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: damienray1102@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2025 6:56 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIELLE RAY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: nellyray314@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2025 6:44 PM

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Everyone deserves a chance especially if they've proven rehabilitation



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DENA NOTZ		PHONE NUMBER: 417-260-2003	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: COLLECTIVELY CHANGING CORRECTIONS		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 11260 BELL RD.			
CITY: SUCCESS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65570
EMAIL: cccforchange24@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 3:27 PM

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We at Collectively Changing Corrections wholeheartedly support this bill. Many of the incarcerated individuals who come to us are waiting for something like this to pass. They would like to get credit for their efforts at rehabilitation and reform. This bill is needed in Missouri!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ERICA WILLIAMS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: e.j.williams19861205@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2025 3:50 PM

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Every crime committed should have an end date. If you are an individual who learned the lesson given you should be able to be rewarded for it



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GLADYS COLLIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: gladys.collis23@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 4:41 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES FIGUEROA-ROBNETT JR.		PHONE NUMBER: 573-356-4433	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI NAACP CONFERENCE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 111 WEST HIGH			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JARVIS SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jarvislsmith@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2025 6:54 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KISHA FLEMING		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Kishafleming24@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 3:37 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MADELINE-MICHELLE CARTHEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: resilience2redemption@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 3:36 PM
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As a volunteer MODOC Chaplain with 32 years of experience, dedicated to rehabilitation and second chances, I strongly support HB 728 - Collins, which focuses on Good Time Credit for incarcerated individuals. This bill aligns with principles of redemption, accountability, and rehabilitation, offering those in prison an opportunity to earn reduced sentences through good behavior, educational achievements, and personal growth initiatives. Rewarding positive behavior fosters hope, personal transformation, and family reunification, reducing recidivism and making communities safer. By implementing Good Time Credit, we acknowledge the human capacity for change, empowering individuals to reintegrate into society as productive citizens while easing the burden on an overpopulated prison system.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MAYCE MARSH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: maycemarsh@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 3:39 PM
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This bill hits home with me so much! My fiance is currently serving time and was awarded 619 days of time credit by the judge per his plea agreement. There are so many inmates serving time not getting even the plead upon time credits. Prisons are meant to rehabilitate individuals and if these men and women are taking the time out to do better and make adjustments they deserve time towards their sentences and the opportunity to come home sooner! Far too often does the DOC get on power trips and try to keep these individuals as long as possible! This bill would be such a positive move in the right direction!



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHELLE SMITH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-814-2910	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI JUSTICE COALITION		TITLE: DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 300563			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RASHEEDA QUARLES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: rmaxwell1200@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 7:59 PM

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Every man and woman should be able to be free or get they good time credit that they worked hard for, these men and women work hard to achieve that goal and for that they deserve to get time off



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RIKA WHITE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jerika@empowermissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 7:23 PM
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March 5, 2025 To: Members of the Crime and Public Safety committee From: Rika White, Policy Manager at Empower Missouri RE: Our support for HB 728 On behalf of our staff, board, and the members of our Crime and Public Safety committee, I ask that you vote "do pass" on HB 728. This bill modifies provisions to good time credit for offenders committed to the department of corrections. This bill allows qualifying offenders to receive good credit, credits to be restored, as well as credits from previous years to not be lost for major violations. This bill allows earned time compliance to be obtained through multiple courses and classes, decreasing one's supervision term differently through each completion. Second chances are necessary, while allowing subjects to prove themselves while bettering their lives incarcerated to have a greater chance when their time is finished. Incentives with no consequences from no completion will have a positive impact on those who qualify to receive these credits, as they are completing them on their own terms with no force. Good time credit can reduce the rates of individuals incarcerated for lower-level crimes, saving time and money. Longer time incarcerated for low-level crimes will just take up room within our jails and more money spent. Allowing these alternatives to lower incarceration time is a great way to not only save high amounts of dollars, but also improve public safety outcomes. Offenders are unlikely to offend again, as well as more time can be spent to focus on larger crimes. Empower Missouri acknowledges that policy changes can be one way we can lessen the impact of explicit bias, or biases which individuals hold that they may not have awareness of. In this bill, creating modifications for more ways to receive good time credit to lower one's sentence will allow individuals to learn from their mistakes and lower the chance of reoffending, save money, and create a better life for low-level crime offenders. We thank you for your support on this bill and encourage any members of the committee to reach out to our office with any questions.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RUSSELL MARKS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: SHEENA EASTBURN		PHONE NUMBER: 417-635-9030	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SHOW ME JUSTICE FOR ALL		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 6412 TIGER RD			
CITY: PIERCE CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65723
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUNNY LOCKWOOD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: i8ur3.14@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 4:03 PM

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This would give offenders more incentive to better themselves and look toward their future rather than wallowing in anger and self pity in the present.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 11:59 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KENYA BRUMFIELD-YOUNG		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Kenya.BrumfieldYoung@slu.edu		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2025 8:14 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide informational testimony regarding House Bill 728, which seeks to reform Missouri's good time credit system for incarcerated individuals. My name is Kenya Brumfield-Young, and I am an Assistant Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Saint Louis University. However, my testimony today reflects my independent research and professional expertise and does not represent the attitudes or opinions of Saint Louis University, its Board of Trustees, or any affiliated entity. Research consistently demonstrates that earned credit programs that incentivize positive behavior and rehabilitation enhance public safety by reducing recidivism. The Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that individuals who participate in education, vocational, and rehabilitative programs while incarcerated are 43 percent less likely to reoffend within three years of release. By allowing incarcerated individuals to earn good time credit for completing rehabilitative programs, HB 728 provides a structured incentive for positive institutional behavior, reducing violence within correctional facilities. A study published by the Urban Institute found that states implementing similar credit-based systems experienced a 20 to 30 percent decrease in institutional misconduct, creating safer conditions for correctional staff and inmates. Furthermore, states that have expanded good time credit policies such as Texas and Ohio have observed lower recidivism rates, demonstrating that structured release incentives support successful reintegration into society. HB 728 also presents significant cost-saving opportunities for the state of Missouri. The Missouri Department of Corrections currently spends approximately twenty five thousand dollars per incarcerated person annually. By allowing eligible individuals to earn sentence reductions through rehabilitative efforts, Missouri stands to save millions in taxpayer dollars. If just ten percent of Missouri's incarcerated population, roughly twenty five hundred individuals, earns an average ninety day sentence reduction, the state could save approximately fifteen to twenty million dollars annually in incarceration costs. States such as South Carolina and Kentucky, which have implemented similar measures, have reported thirty to forty million dollars in annual savings while maintaining public safety and reducing prison populations. In addition to direct incarceration costs, reducing recidivism rates through education and rehabilitation lowers future criminal justice expenses related to re arrest, prosecution, and reincarceration. The Rand Corporation estimates that for every one dollar invested in prison education and rehabilitation, taxpayers save four to five dollars in future criminal justice costs. HB 728 is a fiscally responsible, evidence based approach that enhances public safety, reduces institutional violence, and provides substantial economic benefits to the state of Missouri. By incentivizing incarcerated individuals to engage in education, vocational training, and rehabilitation programs, Missouri can cut costs, improve reentry outcomes, and foster safer communities. I appreciate your time and consideration and would be happy to provide additional research or insights as needed. Thank you.