



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

To promote a safer Idaho by reducing recidivism

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Idaho Justice Reinvestment Initiative (IJRI) **Frequently Asked Questions for Inmates**

What is the Idaho Justice Reinvestment Initiative?

A new law makes big changes to Idaho's criminal justice system. Most of the changes made by Senate Bill 1357 went into effect July 1, 2014, but some parts of the law will be phased in over the next few years.

What does IJRI do?

There are three main goals:

- Strengthen supervision to help probationers and parolees succeed.
- Use prison beds for the highest risk offenders.
- Develop a system that tracks the effectiveness of the system and programs.

Will inmates get out of prison earlier?

If behavior merits an offender's release and they complete programs successfully, they may be granted parole.

The new law requires the Department of Correction and the Parole Commission to report on the percentage of inmates serving time for property and drug convictions released before serving 150% of their fixed sentence, and provide reasons for those who were not released.

The 150% mark is a goal of the statute, not a right to parole.

Why are you taking 20% out of inmate account deposits?

For inmates who owe restitution to a victim, the law requires 20% of all money coming into inmate accounts be taken to pay that debt. This legal requirement becomes effective March 15, 2015. The Department is working to finalize the way this legal requirement is managed and will provide details when plans are finalized.

SUMMARY

The Idaho Justice Reinvestment Initiative seeks to use Idaho's prison beds for the highest risk offenders. It also adds structure and resources for community supervision and intervention.

Steering Committee members encourage those in prison and on supervision to take advantage of this opportunity by completing programs, internalizing treatment, and setting goals for a successful future.