

Potential Legislation from LFC Staff Program Evaluation Reports

Improve the cost-effectiveness of incarceration.

1. Require NMCD to implement a valid risk and needs assessment and use the information to place inmates in appropriate prison programming, and community programming upon re-entry.
2. Require NMCD to offer evidence-based (define) in-prison programming, including:
 - a. Adult education;
 - b. Vocational education;
 - c. Substance abuse treatment;
 - d. Corrections industries;
 - e. Cognitive behavioral therapy;
3. Require NMCD to spend 80 percent of its prison programming budget on evidence-based programs and services.
4. Tie good time awards to completion (rather than simply participation) of evidence-based programs and services.
5. Update statute to provide judges the ability to sentence inmates to NMCD prison facilities only if offenders are sentenced to one year or more after accounting for any period of the sentence being suspended or deferred and any credit for presentence confinement.
6. Amend the geriatric and medical parole statute to require the NMCD to evaluate inmates eligible for medical and geriatric parole and submit the list to the Parole Board for consideration.
7. Require pre-sentencing diagnostic evaluations be performed in county jails or communities where sentencing decisions will be made rather than at NMCD.

Increase public safety through community offender management.

8. Require NMCD to spend 80 percent of its community corrections act services funding on evidence-based (define) programs and services within four years.
9. Amend statutory Intensive Supervision requirements to require offenders to participate in community treatment services based on the results of the NMCD use of a valid risk and needs assessment.
10. Transfer drug court funding currently in the NMCD budget to the judicial branch to continue support for the 2nd and 11th judicial districts. (General Appropriations Act change).