

To: Coalition For Public Safety

From: Brian Nienaber
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Re: Key findings from IVR surveys in Colorado, Florida, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Wisconsin

On this IVR study of ten key states, three statements related to the need for criminal justice reform and one question on a proposed criminal justice reform are asked. As seen below, in all of these states, there is broad majority consensus regarding these statements.

Statement	Agree (CO)	Agree (FL)	Agree (MO)	Agree (NV)	Agree (NH)	Agree (NC)	Agree (OH)	Agree (PA)	Agree (VA)	Agree (WI)
The federal government is spending too many tax dollars keeping nonviolent offenders behind bars.	57%	60%	59%	58%	58%	57%	56%	59%	59%	55%
The main goal of our criminal justice system should be rehabilitating criminals to become productive, law-abiding citizens.	70%	72%	68%	65%	69%	69%	68%	72%	67%	69%
What really matters is that the criminal justice system does a better job of making sure that when an offender does get out, whether after months or years, they are less likely to commit another crime.	68%	66%	67%	67%	68%	68%	68%	64%	61%	69%
Currently, there is a proposal to change the way that non-violent criminals are sentenced so each sentence is tailored to address the individual circumstances of each case instead of having a one-size-fits-all mandatory minimum system.	67%	69%	66%	65%	70%	64%	64%	67%	62%	68%

In addition, there is plurality support that crosses party lines for both the statements of premise and majority support across all political lines for the proposed reform.

Statement	Agree (Overall)	Agree (GOP)	Agree (DEM)	Agree (OTH)
The federal government is spending too many tax dollars keeping nonviolent offenders behind bars.	58%	49%	64%	60%
The main goal of our criminal justice system should be rehabilitating criminals to become productive, law-abiding citizens.	69%	62%	75%	69%
What really matters is that the criminal justice system does a better job of making sure that when an offender does get out, whether after months or years, they are less likely to commit another crime.	67%	66%	65%	69%
Currently, there is a proposal to change the way that non-violent criminals are sentenced so each sentence is tailored to address the individual circumstances of each case instead of having a one-size-fits-all mandatory minimum system.	66%	65%	68%	66%

These IVR studies continue to affirm that there is broad consensus throughout a variety of target states and across political affiliations on the need for criminal justice reform and on the judicial discretion proposal.

NOTABLE TRENDS

On this IVR study of ten key states to the 2016 Elections, a few notable trends are seen, including:

- There is majority agreement in every state surveyed with the three main premises for criminal justice reform, including:
 - The federal government is spending too many tax dollars keeping nonviolent offenders behind bars.
 - The main goal of our criminal justice system should be rehabilitating criminals to become productive, law-abiding citizens.
 - What really matters is that the criminal justice system does a better job of making sure that when an offender does get out, whether after months or years, they are less likely to commit another crime.
- There is also majority agreement across party lines for the second (rehabilitation) and third (deterrence) statements. For the first (spending) statement while forty-eight percent of Republicans and a majority of Democrats and Independents agree with this statement.
- In addition, there is majority support in every state tested for this proposal:
 - Currently, there is a proposal to change the way that non-violent criminals are sentenced so each sentence is tailored to address the individual circumstances of each case instead of having a one-size-fits-all mandatory minimum system.

- There is majority support across party lines for this proposal. More than sixty percent of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents support this proposal.

These IVR studies continue to affirm what our other research on criminal justice reform has shown -- that there is broad consensus throughout a variety of target states and across political affiliations on the need for criminal justice reform and on the judicial discretion proposal.