

# Exercise your Power of Access

It is your right as a legislator to access MDOC facilities.

Visit a prison, invite your colleagues, and speak with incarcerated Michiganders.

Before you vote, understand the realities of what it's like to live and work inside of the Michigan Department of Corrections.

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## Michigan Department of Corrections Correctional Facilities Map

*As of November 2022*



### Correctional Facilities

1. Baraga Correctional Facility
2. Marquette Branch Prison
3. Alger Correctional Facility
4. Newberry Correctional Facility
5. Chippewa Correctional Facility
5. Kinross Correctional Facility
6. Oaks Correctional Facility
7. Muskegon Correctional Facility
7. Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
8. St. Louis Correctional Facility
8. Central Michigan Correctional Facility
9. Saginaw Correctional Facility
10. Carson City Correctional Facility
11. Ionia Correctional Facility
11. Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
11. Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
12. Thumb Correctional Facility
13. Macomb Correctional Facility
14. Woodland Center Correctional Facility
15. Cooper Street Correctional Facility w/ SAI
15. Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
15. G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
15. Parnall Correctional Facility
16. Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility
17. Lakeland Correctional Facility
18. Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
19. Detroit Detention Center

- Northern Facilities: Baraga, Chippewa, Marquette
- Mid-State Facilities: Ionia, Jackson Facilities
- Southeast Facilities: Egeler Reception and Guidance, Women's Huron Valley
- Geriatric Unit: Lakeland Correctional Facility
- Veterans Unit: Saginaw Correctional Facility

Key  
Facilities

# Considerations Before You Visit a Prison

Make the most of your prison visit  
to shape policy.

## Places in the facilities you could ask to see:

- The visiting room
- The infirmary
- The chow hall
- The acute care/residential treatment units
- Restrictive housing/segregation/solitary confinement units
- The regular housing units

## Questions you could ask to incarcerated people:

- What is one thing you think is important to consider while considering policy change?
- What are the things that have prepared you the most to come home? Do you have access to them readily?
- What are your goals? How are you planning for them?
- How would you describe the prison environment right now? What would incentive it to improve?
- Do you think there is enough programming available to everyone who would benefit from it?

Feel free to also ask location-specific questions in the facilities. Some examples can include, "Where do you get your medications and what is the process like?" or "Where do you find mental health resources?"

## Questions you could ask to admin and staff:

- How would you describe the prison environment right now? How has it changed? What could incentivize it to improve?
- Are you fully staffed? How often do you work overtime? Do you feel you have a good work/life balance?
- Describe your typical workday.
- Do you feel you have adequate support?
- What's one policy you would change to improve the MDOC?
- Is there anybody here who you think doesn't need to be in prison?
- What programs do you support?

# Policies to Consider

## Second Look Legislation: Resentencing Bills

The Second Look bill package (SB321-SB325 and HB4556-HB4560) would grant judges the authority to reevaluate and potentially reduce the sentences of individuals who have served a minimum of ten years on their term. It provides an opportunity for resentencing to those who have shown personal growth and rehabilitation, are elderly or have terminal illness, or whose crime was the result of domestic abuse, sexual assault, or other trauma.

This process involves a review by the judge, who carefully considers various factors such as feedback from the victim, the individual's behavior, contributions to society, and the appropriateness of the original sentence.

## Ending Juvenile Life Without Parole

Bipartisan legislation [Senate Bills 119-123](#) and [House Bills 4160-4164](#) introduced in March 2023 in the Michigan Senate and Senate would remove the option of sentencing youths younger than 19 to life without the possibility of parole. If passed, it will make Michigan the twenty-ninth state to end the inhumane practice of juvenile life without parole.

## Good Time

Seeking to address the vast sentencing disparities between Michigan and the rest of the country, state Reps. Rachel Hood (D-Grand Rapids), Amos O’Neal (D-Saginaw) and Jimmie Wilson, Jr. (D-Ypsilanti) have joined a bipartisan coalition of organizations to introduce a package of bills [HB4468](#), [HB4469](#), [HB4470](#), and [HB4471](#), to reinstate “good time” credits. The policy package outlines the different terms and conditions for anyone currently serving time in Michigan to earn sentence-reduction credits. The package also focuses on youth currently serving time in Michigan by eliminating life without the possibility of parole for youth under 19 as well as improving conditions and ensuring programming within youth correctional facilities.