

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: contact us form submission
Date: Monday, July 25, 2022 2:56:16 PM

Web site information request by [REDACTED] on 2022-07-25.

firstname: Russ

lastname: Walters

email: [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED]

city: Foley

state: Minnesota

zip: 56339

requestedFromType: Public

description: Members, I am very considered with the little amount of actual time served, if any by people found guilty of various criminal acts. The changing of the points system in any way to lower time spent is NOT acceptable. The further decay of our state can't continue. Thank you, Russ

From: [DEBRA SCHUMACHER](#)
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Sentencing Guidelines
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 1:41:57 PM

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I write to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons, especially sex offenders. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave, the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier. This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence. It's only common sense. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous.

If you don't get TOUGHER on criminals, you will lose more good citizens of this state. We are tired of being known as weak on crime, it just brings more criminals to MN. We are tired and disgusted with the catch and release program going on right now.

Debby Schumacher

From: [Jennifer Hamel](#)
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Sentencing guidelines concern
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 2:18:04 PM

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Good afternoon,

My name is Jennifer, and I have two children that live in the city of Minneapolis. One is a student at the University of Minnesota, and the other is a U of M graduate and current RN at M Health Fairview Hospital. I worry every single day about their safety.

I write to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons. Of particular concern to me is the felony car jacking and assaults that are happening repeatedly around the U of M campus. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave, the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier. This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous. I sincerely appreciate you taking time to reflect and review before eliminating these points from consideration. I want Minneapolis and Minnesota as a whole to be safer for all.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Hamel

From: [Kerry Kruegler](#)
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Keep MN Safe!
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 2:35:43 PM

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Good afternoon.

I am sending an e-mail to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons. The state is already dealing with an unprecedented crime wave. Letting violent offenders out of prison earlier is the last thing that should happen. The core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission is protecting public safety. This decision would be counterintuitive. The fact that someone is on probation, parole, or escaped when they commit another crime should factor into their sentence. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution which makes MN more dangerous.

Kerry Kruegler
U of MN mom

From: [Heather Smythe](#)
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 2:43:58 PM

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To whom it may concern;

I write to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave, the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier.

This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence.

Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous. It is already dangerous enough.

Thank you for your time,
Heather Smythe

From: [Stefanie Kelly](#)
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Please, protect public safety.
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 4:12:13 PM

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MSGC:

I am reaching out to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons, especially sex offenders. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave (especially in Minneapolis), the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier. This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous. Why should the safety of the public be jeopardized? Lives are being lost due to repeat offenders.

Thank you for your time, and thank you for serving on the MSGC.

Sincerely,

Stefanie Kelly

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: contact us form submission
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 9:05:50 PM

Web site information request by [REDACTED] on 2022-07-26.

firstname: Jeanne

lastname: Fish

email: [REDACTED]

phone: [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED]

city: Minneapolis

state: MN

zip: 55412

requestedFromType: Public

description: It's time to stop giving people who choose to commit crimes such minimal consequences. If you care about both the criminals and the rest of us who choose not to commit crimes, you will give those convicted actual consequences for their actions. I've lived in North Minneapolis for 26 years and YOUR actions have definitely had an effect on the quality of life in my neighborhood.

From: [Jamie Schmitgen](#)
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Removal of Custody Points
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 11:47:03 AM

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I am sending this email hoping that the commission is taking the thoughts and ideas of Minnesota citizens into consideration as you make decisions that will affect the entire state.

As citizens we are exhausted and frustrated by seeing the crime rates jump and the lack of response by judges and prosecutors. A crime is a crime. Consequences should be a result of a unlawful action. We are tired of witnessing groups of people putting the rights of the unlawful before the rights of the victims. Victims should be given more thought and consideration when decision are made regarding sentencing and custody. It means something to the victims and their families. It is time to stop making excuses and start enforcing laws at their fullest. The system is broken, it is time to fix it for the people!

Please start listening to all people.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Schmitgen
Rochester, MN

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 8:51:33 PM

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Re: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences

Dear Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission,

Dear Sentencing Guidelines Commission: I write to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons, especially sex offenders. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave, the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier. This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence. It's only common sense. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jerry Pybas

[REDACTED]
4344 Kingston Rd Duluth, MN 55803 Constituent

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From: [Michelle Carroll](#)
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Commissions
Date: Thursday, July 28, 2022 9:46:29 AM

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To facilitate and gravitate towards a potential solution I would like to present some ideas for your review. I believe that obstacles should only be viewed merely as an opportunity for growth and change, however frustrations are increasing as while these meetings are an informative collaboration of thoughts each month, we seem to be spinning our wheels. While my proposal may appear naïve in nature, and I certainly do not have the extensive background that many of you have involving the judicial system I am hoping that I may present some ideas from a different perspective. I am aware that there are programs already available so if any of this is redundant, please forgive my ignorance and that some listed are already in place. I genuinely believe if you focus on the problem of reoffending rather than the symptom you may see better results yielded. I heard testimony of other proposals of eliminating the custody status point, however it stands to be noted that in most court cases much of the charges get plea bargained down by defense already so how effective would this proposal truly be? Another concern is regarding battered women/children. Usually, the hardest and most dangerous time is leaving an abusive relationship. If the offender is incarcerated and there is an OFP in place, the offender gets released and violates the OFP then under current system offender would be reincarcerated for violation, correct? Well, if there is no consequence then how does this affect a victim's protection? Will we see an increase in domestic violence, homicide, or women who just won't leave? There are many potential consequences to this decision. Here are my thoughts.

Review current programs and effectiveness. Are they working? How can they be improved?

Effective rehabilitation programs will ultimately decrease costs by reducing reoffending. This should eliminate this point concern.

Psych evaluations upon admission. Is this done? Would help to determine appropriate mental health services.

Concerning the issue of racial disparity, I find this appalling that this is going on and is a great injustice and disservice to us all in America. An individual's socioeconomic or racial status should not be a negative factor and used as a weapon against them. The crime committed and evidence should be the deciding factors.

Provide counseling and mental health services immediately upon admission.

Encourage family counseling as entire household is affected.

Psych evaluations done every three or six months and before leaving facility.

Drug testing upon admission and random testing while incarcerated. This would help deter drug problems in facilities and prepare for color wheel while on probation.

Weekly speakers in facilities from organizations focused on mental health, wellness, impairment, AA, NA, etc.

Access to numerous Faith based services. Healing starts within.

Non-Contact Charity Programs to help someone else as when you help someone else you help yourself. Maybe putting together shoeboxes filled with supplies for the homeless for example?

Each should write a letter to victim, their family, and themselves as how their choices affected each entity. Letters kept in record at facility. This would be done as a source of personal reflection and accountability. Maybe a part of counseling/treatment.

Trade program offered while incarcerated to facilitate job placement after release.

List of employers that agree to work with individuals for job placement. Provide interview training and basic job readiness training before leaving facility.

Housing is an issue as well as getting to probation checks. Provide a step-down unit after release for 3-6 months much like a rehab center-apartment complex that has access for busing/transportation, security guard on staff, probation officer could maybe meet there once weekly or as determined to provide probation checks. Continue with outpatient treatment. This is key as temptations will be great. This would hopefully facilitate a transition into society while still having a structured support system but promotes independence. This would provide a time for adjustment and personal growth before often going back to the environment that doesn't facilitate positive change. This is difficult as an entire lifestyle change is probably the hardest.

Unfortunately, this will not be successful for all and by their own nature these individuals will present themselves. It is the duty of the Commission to make certain that the laws and rules that are to be followed are just and appropriate. In my opinion, not addressing these individuals that are resistant to the therapeutic services offered fostering wellness and choose to continue with their self-destructive behavior are a danger to others and themselves and to turn a blind eye to that fact puts the public, officers, EMTs, and that person at risk and yes is an injustice to all.

If the services provided are working correctly than there should be a noted decrease in recidivism and the custody status point will have no negative effect on the individual. These conditions should be implemented at sentencing hearing and a part of individuals sentencing to ensure follow through of programs.

Justice Moore brought up an excellent point regarding certain areas where location and services might be part of the issue regarding probation violation. For these areas especially, I think a step-down facility as mentioned earlier might be extremely beneficial.

Concerning the Level Three Repeat Sex Offenders I have done some research on this, but I am by no means claiming to be an expert or have a professional opinion. Based on my findings, it does not appear that these individuals have any rehabilitation potential. If there is a case, I haven't seen it. Rather it seems as though it is just a waiting game for their next offense and the next victim. Due to that I do not believe these crimes can be grouped with others and should have their own evaluation reform.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this. I appreciate the opportunity to converse with each of you.

Michelle Hipsag

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences
Date: Sunday, July 31, 2022 7:44:51 AM

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Re: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences

Dear Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission,

Dear Sentencing Guidelines Commission: I write to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons, especially sex offenders. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave, the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier. This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence. It's only common sense. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous.

Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Elvidge

[REDACTED]
4545 Snail Lake Blvd Shoreview, MN 55126 Constituent

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences
Date: Monday, August 1, 2022 12:16:39 PM

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Re: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences

Dear Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission,

Dear Sentencing Guidelines Commission: I write to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons, especially sex offenders. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave, the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier. This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence. It's only common sense. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous.

Sincerely,
Mr. Matt Wentz

[REDACTED]
2228 County Road 5 SW Howard Lake, MN 55349 Constituent

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From: [Mark Anderson](#)
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Sentencing Guidelines
Date: Monday, August 1, 2022 12:31:21 PM

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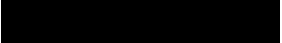
Greetings

I read with some dismay yesterday about an initiative under consideration by this commission that would most likely lead to reduced sentences for repeat offenders. I'm stunned and frustrated that such a proposal would return for further discussion. Can you explain why somebody that's been given a very generous opportunity to correct their destructive behavior, but chooses to re-offend, should have yet another light or no sentence? I suggest this commission look at initiatives supportive of enhanced bail requirements/sentencing guidelines. People living in a civilized society do not want thugs back on the streets, we want them in jail - if that means we need to build more, so be it. Put the initiative on a ballot and I bet it gets overwhelming support.

Do not consider reduced sentences for repeat offenders under any circumstances.

Thank you,

Mark Anderson


Mankato, Minnesota 56001

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences
Date: Tuesday, August 2, 2022 11:37:57 AM

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Re: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences

Dear Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission,

Dear Sentencing Guidelines Commission: I write to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons, especially sex offenders. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave, the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier. This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence. It's only common sense. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous.

Sincerely,

Ms. DIANE ALBRECHT

[REDACTED]
1321 Lake Dr W, Apt 225 Chanhassen, MN 55317 Constituent

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 2:03:06 PM

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Re: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences

Dear Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission,

Dear Sentencing Guidelines Commission: I write to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons, especially sex offenders. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave, the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier. This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence. It's only common sense. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Angeline L Loecken

[REDACTED]
1209 E Baker St Saint Joseph, MN 56374 Constituent

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 12:46:05 PM

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Re: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences

Dear Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission,

Dear Sentencing Guidelines Commission: I write to oppose the proposal to eliminate custody status points from consideration for felony sentences. This change will lower sentences across the board for convicted felons, especially sex offenders. As the state deals with an unprecedented crime wave, the last thing we should be doing is letting violent offenders out of prison earlier. This proposal is contrary to the core mission of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, protecting public safety. The fact that someone is on probation or parole (or even escaped) when they commit another crime certainly should factor into their sentence. It's only common sense. Please reject this one-size-fits-all solution that will make our state more dangerous.

Sincerely,
Mr. Alan Ek

[REDACTED]
4744 Kevin Lane Shoreview, MN 55126 Constituent

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Guidelines, Sentencing \(MSGC\)](#)
Subject: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences
Date: Friday, August 19, 2022 11:03:48 AM

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Re: Keep Minnesotans Safe - Opposition to Eliminate Custody Status Points for Felony Sentences

Dear Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission,

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Maureen Bradach

[REDACTED]
17500 Creek Ridge Pass Minnetonka, MN 55345 Constituent

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