

## CSG Bill

*Based on a report published by the Council of State Governments Justice Center (“CSG”), allows prisoners and parolees to reduce their period of imprisonment/parole by participating in rehabilitative programming. The goal of the bill is to reduce recidivism and lower incarceration rates.*

### House Language:

- Amends M.G.L. c. 94C s. 32H; c. 124 s. 1; c. 127; s. 129D by creating a system of “good time credits” for inmates who complete recidivism-reduction programs, allowing them to reduce their period of incarceration by up to 35%. Also creates a system of “compliance credits” through which post-release offenders can reduce their period of parole or probation.
  - Requires certain serious offenders to serve the mandatory minimum prison sentence for their crime(s) of conviction, even when they would otherwise be eligible for earlier release under this law.
  - Allows lower-level offenders to be eligible for sentence reduction below the mandatory minimum prison sentence for their crime(s) of conviction.
- Establishes a pretrial service program within the office of community corrections as an alternative to bail.

**Cost Impact:** According to the CSG report, the proposed changes could save taxpayers nearly \$10 million in projected jail and prison costs by 2023.

**Population Impact:** This bill will reduce recidivism by incentivizing prisoner participation in rehabilitative programming and by strengthening community oversight of prisoners’ reentry into society.