

By: Senators C. Tucker, Gilmore

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO SUPPORT ARKANSAS'S ENGAGING THE JUSTICE COUNTS METRICS AND TO URGE POLICYMAKERS THROUGHOUT STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES TO IMPLEMENT AND UTILIZE THE JUSTICE COUNTS METRICS AND COMMIT TO MAKING THE LATEST CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA AVAILABLE.

Subtitle

TO SUPPORT ARKANSAS'S ENGAGING THE JUSTICE COUNTS METRICS AND TO URGE POLICYMAKERS THROUGHOUT STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES TO IMPLEMENT AND UTILIZE THE JUSTICE COUNTS METRICS.

WHEREAS, Justice Counts is an initiative led by the United States Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance, The Council of State Governments' Justice Center, and over *nineteen (19)* partners to develop and help implement consensus-driven metrics for criminal justice agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Justice Counts metrics are developed in partnership with a wide range of experts across the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas policymakers are often forced to make critical decisions about the safety of their constituents using limited or out-of-date criminal justice data; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas consistently ranks among the top five (5) states with



the highest violent crime rates in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas consistently ranks among the top five (5) states with the highest incarceration rates in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas consistently ranks among the states with the highest rates of those leaving incarceration to be re-incarcerated within three (3) years; and

WHEREAS, people in Arkansas on probation or parole account for approximately sixteen percent (16%) of violent crime arrests and approximately sixty-two percent (62%) of prison admissions; and

WHEREAS, Justice Counts would help to remedy this by ensuring decision makers have access to consistent, timely, and accurate data across the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, twenty-nine (29) states and two (2) territories, including states such as Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, and Tennessee, have committed to implementing the Justice Counts metrics,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate support Arkansas's engaging the Justice Counts metrics and urge policymakers throughout state and local government entities to implement and utilize the metrics and commit to making the latest criminal justice data available.

/s/C. Tucker