



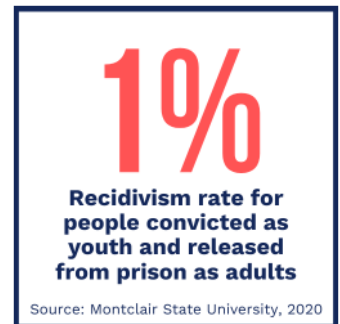
CREATE RETROACTIVE RESENTENCING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Most states have abolished life without parole sentences for children, and a majority of those states, including Texas, Utah, North Dakota, Arkansas, Ohio, West Virginia, and Wyoming, made the changes retroactive and prospective.

Why this is a Problem:

Illinois is spending millions of dollars incarcerating people whose sentence no longer reflects the current understanding of a fair sentence. It costs about **\$74K annually to incarcerate one person**, according to the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (2023).

The U.S. Supreme Court and recent state laws have recognized children's and young people's brain development and **substantial capacity for rehabilitation** as they mature and change. The younger population overwhelmingly "ages out" of crime.



We Need Fairness and Consistency.

Through **bipartisan** 2019 and 2023 Youthful Parole laws, Illinois created new parole opportunities for people 20 and younger who were sentenced after enactment. Public Act 102-1128 abolished life without parole sentences for most people 20 and younger.

Since these youthful parole laws were not retroactive, **people who were sentenced as children and young adults before 2019 are still serving life without parole sentences.**

Solution:

Create a limited opportunity for people under 20 and younger at the time of their offense to petition the court for their sentence to be reviewed. People who were 20 and younger could petition for a sentencing review after serving 10, 20, or 30 years, depending on their conviction.

The State's Attorney would **notify the victims and survivors**, including notice of programs, victim advocate, and the opportunity to testify during the hearing.

This is a **fair, cost-effective, age-appropriate way** to ensure children and young adults are held accountable for the harm they have caused while offering them an opportunity to redeem themselves.

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