



AJA Monthly Report

Last Updated: April 25, 2023

Washington Update

March on Capitol Hill marked the beginning of the appropriation request season, where federal agencies present their funding proposals to Congress for the upcoming fiscal year. This period is crucial as it sets the budget priorities for the federal government and determines the level of funding for various programs and initiatives. Lobbyit has engaged with Congress during this pivotal month to ensure your priorities are top of mind as these debates unfold on Capitol Hill.

Efforts to Include Jails and Correctional Facilities in Legislative Efforts

Several bills related to law enforcement have been introduced during the 118th Congress that have not been inclusive of law enforcement officers working in jails or other correctional facilities. A snapshot of those bills include:

- Recruit and Retain Act of 2023 (HR 898 / S 546) - This bill allows funds under the Community Oriented Policing Services grant program to be used to recruit and retain law enforcement officers for community-oriented policing.
- Law Enforcement Bill of Rights (HRes 285) – Rep. Anthony D’Esposito (R-NY) - This resolution recognizes law enforcement agencies and officers for their tireless work to protect us and make our communities safer. It also condemns calls to defund, disband, dismantle, or abolish the police.

Engagement on the Hill

Lobbyit is engaging with Hill staff on the House and Senate Judiciary Committees regularly regarding this issue by educating them about the work done by officers working in jails, the importance of creating space for them in these bills, and the distinction between jails and prisons. We are not advocating for any specific legislation as part of this effort, only educating that officers working in jails are not necessarily covered by their language.

Issues Impacting Incarcerated Individuals

Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) has introduced a series of bills to end what he describes as unfair and abusive labor practices in correctional facilities. This legislative package comes after Senator Booker and several of his colleagues’ highlighted claims of abuse at correctional facilities in New Jersey, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and other facilities around the country.

Engagement on the Hill

Senator Booker (D-NJ), Mitchell Smith - Senator Booker’s proposals have not garnered cosponsors but the Mitch indicated that the Senator remains passionate about criminal justice reforms and intends to use his position on the Judiciary Committee to push for those reforms.

- Fair Wages for Incarcerated workers Act (S 516) - ensures incarcerated workers are paid the federal minimum wage for their work. It also eliminates certain wage deductions while ensuring incarcerated people can still fulfill important legal and financial obligations.
- Correctional Facilities Occupational Safety and Health Act of 2023 (S 518) - extends federal workplace safety and health protections to incarcerated workers in federal, state, or local correctional facilities who perform work offered or required by the facility. The bill requires states with approved workplace safety and health plans to include protections for incarcerated workers and establishes a grant program to assist states with implementing and enforcing these protections. The bill also requires regular reporting on workplace and safety conditions at correctional facilities.
- Ensuring Work Opportunities in Correctional Facilities Medicaid Reentry Act of 2023 (S 508) - advances job and educational opportunities in prisons to prepare returning citizens to successfully reenter society and to reduce recidivism.

Reentry Act (HR 2400) – Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY)

As anticipated Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY) reintroduced his Reentry Act the last day of March. There was no material change in the legislation from the 117th, allowing for Medicaid payment of medical services for incarcerated individuals during the 30-day period prior to their release. The bill had 13 additional bipartisan cosponsors.

Engagements on the Hill

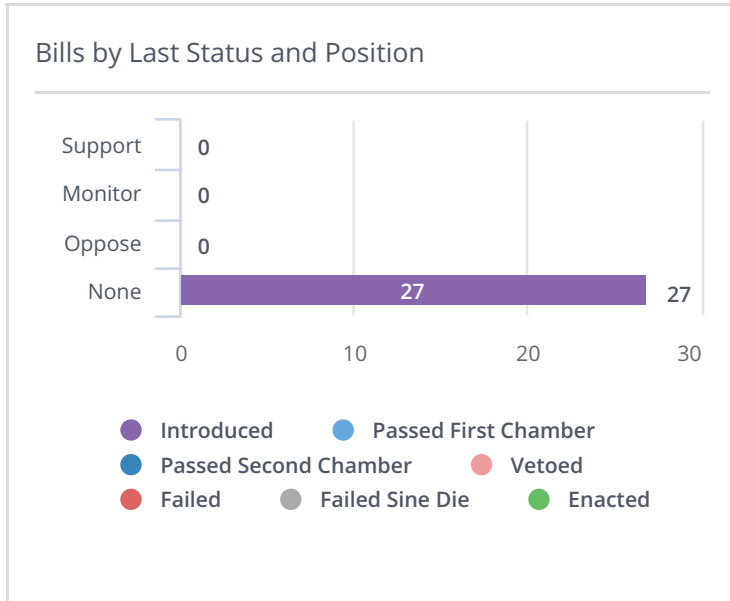
Rep. Tonko, Emily Silverberg (LD) – The meeting was well received and Lobbyit recommends NCCHC send a letter of support similar to what we sent last year. Emily will be in communication about how we can be supportive of the legislation moving forward.

Due Process Continuity of Care Act (S 971) – Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA)

Senator Cassidy (R-LA) also reintroduced Medicaid related legislation at the end of March, the Due Process Continuity of Care Act. This bill allows otherwise eligible individuals who are in custody pending disposition of charges to receive benefits at the option of the state. The bill also provides to grants to support the administration of these activities. Senator Cassidy was not a cosponsor of the Reentry Act last Congress but in our letter concert with our letter of support, we should urge him to sign on.

SHIELD Act (HR 62) – Rep. Shelia Jackson Lee (D-TX)

This bill has two main provisions. Firstly, it reduces funding for law enforcement grant programs in states that have laws allowing interference with reproductive health services. Secondly, it prohibits discriminatory interference with access to reproductive healthcare by state or local officers, as well as non-officials attempting to enforce state laws affecting interstate commerce.



Bills by Issue

American Jail Association (27)

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HCONRES 5	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 01 09	In House	None	None	15.1% 0.0%

Title

Introduction Date: 2023-01-09

Expressing support for the Nation's law enforcement agencies and condemning any efforts to defund or dismantle law enforcement agencies.

Description

This concurrent resolution offers sincere gratitude and appreciation for the nation's law enforcement officers. It also recognizes the sacrifices of law enforcement officers and rejects efforts to defund and dismantle state and local law enforcement agencies.

Primary Sponsors

Tom Tiffany

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 27	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 01 09	In House	None	None	5.7% 74.4%

Title

Introduction Date: 2023-01-09

Prosecutors Need to Prosecute Act

Description

Prosecutors Need to Prosecute Act This bill requires certain state and local prosecutors to report data on criminal referrals and outcomes of cases involving murder or non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, arson, or any offense involving the illegal use or possession of a firearm. The reporting requirement applies to state and local prosecutors in a jurisdiction with 380,000 or more persons that receives funding under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program. The report must contain data on * cases referred for prosecution, * cases declined for prosecution, * cases resulting in a plea agreement with the defendant, * cases initiated against defendants with previous arrests or convictions, and * defendants charged who were released or eligible for bail.

Primary Sponsors

Nicole Malliotakis

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 46	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On The Judiciary For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2023 01 09	In House	None	None	7.4% 68.7%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-01-09
Mental Health Access and Gun Violence Prevention Act of 2023

Description

Mental Health Access and Gun Violence Prevention Act of 2023 This bill authorizes FY2024 appropriations for the Department of Justice, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Social Security Administration to (1) increase access to mental health care treatment and services, and (2) promote reporting of mental health information to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. (This system is used to query federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial criminal history record information and other records to determine an individual's eligibility to receive, transfer, or possess firearms.)

Primary Sponsors

Sheila Jackson Lee

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 50	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 01 09	In House	None	None	8.5% 65.6%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-01-09
Terry Technical Correction Act

Description

Terry Technical Correction Act This bill broadens the scope of crack cocaine offenders who are eligible for a retroactive sentencing reduction under the First Step Act of 2018. The First Step Act made the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 retroactive and authorized sentencing reductions for certain crack cocaine offenders convicted and sentenced before the Fair Sentencing Act became effective. Under current law, crack cocaine offenders whose conduct triggered a mandatory minimum sentence are eligible for a retroactive sentencing reduction under the First Step Act. However, in 2021, the Supreme Court held in Terry v. United States that low-level crack cocaine offenders whose conduct did not trigger a mandatory minimum sentence are not eligible for a retroactive sentencing reduction under the First Step Act. This bill extends eligibility for a retroactive sentencing reduction under the First Step Act to all crack cocaine offenders convicted and sentenced before the Fair Sentencing Act became effective, including low-level offenders whose conduct did not trigger a mandatory minimum sentence.

Primary Sponsors

Sheila Jackson Lee

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 54	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 01 09	In House	None	None	8.4% 66.1%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-01-09
Federal Prison Bureau Nonviolent Offender Relief Act of 2023

Description
Federal Prison Bureau Nonviolent Offender Relief Act of 2023 This bill establishes a new early release option for certain federal prisoners. Specifically, the Bureau of Prisons must release early an offender who has completed at least half of his or her sentence if such offender has attained age 45, has never been convicted of a crime of violence, and has not received any institutional disciplinary violations.

Primary Sponsors
Sheila Jackson Lee

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 56	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 01 09	In House	None	None	8.6% 66.1%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-01-09
RAISE Act of 2023

Description
Reforming Alternatives to Incarceration and Sentencing to Establish a Better Path for Youth Act of 2023 or the RAISE Act of 2023 This bill modifies requirements and procedures related to the sentencing, confinement, and release of youth who are involved in the federal criminal justice system. The term youth means an individual who is prosecuted or sentenced for a criminal offense committed at age 21 or younger. The bill modifies federal sentencing options for youth, including by allowing courts * to depart from the statutory mandatory minimum for certain nonviolent offenses, * to reduce the prison term of a youth who has completed 20 years of the sentence, and * to treat as discretionary a sentence of imprisonment for life. Additionally, it requires the Bureau of Prisons to separately designate youth correctional facilities, minimize contact between youth and other offenders, and establish programs regarding youth education, skills training, reentry, and mental and emotional health. Finally, the bill promotes reentry and reintegration into the community, including by * providing an early release option for youth offenders who complete one half or more of their prison term and meet certain criteria; * authorizing home confinement for a longer period of time; * limiting the maximum prison term for technical violations of probation; * establishing pilot programs for mentorship, government service, and animal service; and * establishing pilot programs for diversion of high-risk, victimized, and primary caretaker youth.

Primary Sponsors
Sheila Jackson Lee

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 62	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On The Judiciary For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2023 01 09	In House	None	None	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> 7.4% 69.4% </div>

Title
SHIELD Act

Introduction Date: 2023-01-09

Description

Safeguard Healthcare Industry Employees from Litigation and Distress Act or the SHIELD Act This bill establishes a framework to limit interference with persons seeking to provide or access reproductive health services at the state level. For the purposes of this summary, interference with persons seeking to provide or access reproductive health services includes acts to prevent, restrict, impede, or retaliate against * a health care provider who provides reproductive health care services, * any person or entity who helps health care providers to provide such services, * any person who seeks to access such services, or * any person or entity who helps another person to access such services. First, the bill reduces the allocation of funds under certain law enforcement grant programs for a state that has in effect a law authorizing state or local officers or employees to interfere with persons seeking to provide or access reproductive health services. Second, the bill prohibits interference with persons seeking to provide or access reproductive health care services * by state or local officers or employees acting under color of law in any manner that would have a discriminatory effect on a woman, and * by persons who are not state or local officers or employees and are attempting to implement or enforce a state law in circumstances affecting interstate commerce. The bill authorizes civil remedies for a violation, including damages and injunctive relief. Additionally, it authorizes criminal penalties for a violation involving the use of a deadly or dangerous weapon or the infliction of bodily injury.

Primary Sponsors

Sheila Jackson Lee

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 238	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 01 10	In House	None	None	8.7% 66.1%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-01-10
Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment Act of 2023

Description

Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment Act of 2023 This bill revises and reauthorizes through FY2027 grants for residential substance use disorder treatment programs at state and local correctional and detention facilities. Among the revisions, the bill * replaces statutory references to substance abuse with substance use disorder, * specifies that the term residential substance use disorder treatment program includes a medication-assisted treatment program, * requires the chief medical officer or other staff overseeing a program to complete training on the science of addiction and the latest research and clinical guidance on treating substance use disorders in criminal justice settings, and * allows people who are awaiting trial or in pretrial detention to participate in the programs.

Primary Sponsors

Sheila Jackson Lee

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 355	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 01 13	In House	None	None	5.5% 66.4%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-01-13
Back the Blue Act of 2023

Primary Sponsors

Don Bacon

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 444	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 01 20	In House	None	None	5.0% 60.6%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-01-20
End For-Profit Prisons Act of 2023

Description
End For-Profit Prisons Act of 2023 This bill establishes a framework to phase out existing Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and U.S. Marshals Service contracts with private companies for correctional facilities and community confinement facilities (e.g., halfway houses). The bill requires the Department of Justice to develop guidelines for community reintegration programs at community confinement facilities. In carrying out prerelease and reentry planning procedures, the bill requires the BOP to ensure prisoners receive information and counseling about criminal record expungement; educational, employment, and treatment programs; and applications for public assistance programs, a driver's license, and voter registration. The BOP must also provide prisoners with postrelease information about fines, assessments, surcharges, restitution, and other penalties.

Primary Sponsors
Bonnie Watson Coleman

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 898	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 02 09	In House	None	None	5.6% 59.5%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-02-09
Recruit and Retain Act of 2023

Description
Recruit and Retain Act of 2023 This bill allows funds under the Community Oriented Policing Services grant program to be used to recruit and retain law enforcement officers for community-oriented policing.

Primary Sponsors
John Carter

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 982	Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary And In Addition To The Committee On The Budget For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2023 02 10	In House	None	None	5.7% 77.2%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-02-10
Pregnant Women in Custody Act

Primary Sponsors
Sydney Kamlager-Dove

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 1359	Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On The Judiciary For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2023 03 03	In House	None	None	5.6% 78.4%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-03-03
Modernizing Opioid Treatment Access Act

Primary Sponsors
Donald Norcross

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 1490	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 03 09	In House	None	None	5.4% 65.9%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-03-09
Preventing Violence Against Female Inmates Act of 2023

Primary Sponsors
Rick Crawford

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 1776	Referred To The House Committee On Foreign Affairs 2023 03 24	In House	None	None	14.3% 79.5%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-03-24
End Tuberculosis Now Act of 2023

Primary Sponsors
Ami Bera

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 2400	Referred To The House Committee On Energy And Commerce 2023 03 30	In House	None	None	4.6% 77.3%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-03-30
Reentry Act of 2023

Description
Reentry Act of 2023 This bill allows for Medicaid payment of medical services furnished to an incarcerated individual during the 30-day period preceding the individual's release. The Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Payment and Access Commission must report on specified information relating to the accessibility and quality of health care for incarcerated individuals, including the impact of the bill's changes.

Primary Sponsors
Paul Tonko

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HRES 115	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 02 09	In House	None	None	5.9% 70.2%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-02-09

Establishing a Women's Bill of Rights to reaffirm legal protections afforded to women under Federal law.

Description

This resolution expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that (1) for purposes of federal law, a person's sex means the person's biological sex at birth; and (2) distinctions between the sexes are justified in certain settings, laws, and policies.

Primary Sponsors

Debbie Lesko

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HRES 285	Referred To The House Committee On The Judiciary 2023 04 10	In House	None	None	4.1% 72.6%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-04-10

Establishing a "Bill of Rights" to support United States law enforcement personnel nationwide in their work to protect our communities.

Description

This resolution recognizes law enforcement agencies and officers for their tireless work to protect us and make our communities safer. It also condemns calls to defund, disband, dismantle, or abolish the police.

Primary Sponsors

Anthony D'Esposito

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 508	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary 2023 02 16	In Senate	None	None	5.2% 74.3%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-02-16

Ensuring Work Opportunities in Correctional Facilities Act of 2023

Primary Sponsors

Cory Booker

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 516	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2023 02 16	In Senate	None	None	7.5% 70.6%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-02-16

Fair Wages for Incarcerated Workers Act of 2023

Primary Sponsors

Cory Booker

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 517	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary 2023 02 16	In Senate	None	None	13.6% 68.2%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-02-16

Combating Workplace Discrimination in Correctional Facilities Act
of 2023

Primary Sponsors

Cory Booker

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 518	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary 2023 02 16	In Senate	None	None	5.2% 72.4%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-02-16
 Correctional Facilities Occupational Safety and Health Act of 2023

Description
 Correctional Facilities Occupational Safety and Health Act of 2023
 This bill extends federal workplace safety and health protections to incarcerated workers. These are individuals who (1) are incarcerated or detained in a federal, state, or local correctional facility (or a private facility operating under government contract); and (2) perform work offered or required by the correctional facility, such as prison work programs or work release programs. States and territories that enforce their own workplace safety and health laws and standards under a plan approved by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration must include workplace protections for incarcerated workers in the plan. In addition, the Department of Labor must establish a grant program to assist states with amending their occupational safety and health laws to cover incarcerated workers and with enforcing those laws. Furthermore, the Bureau of Prisons must ensure that its workplace safety and health program applies to incarcerated workers in the same manner as it applies to employees of the bureau. Additionally, states and localities that participate in the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program must have workplace safety and health protections for incarcerated workers that are appropriately monitored and enforced. The bill reserves a portion of the grants for recipients to use to set up workplace safety and health protections for incarcerated workers. The bill also requires periodic reports to Congress and the Department of Justice about the workplace and safety conditions at correctional facilities, including any potential noncompliance with relevant standards.

Primary Sponsors
 Cory Booker

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 546	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary 2023 02 28	In Senate	None	None	11.9% 79.7%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-02-28
 Recruit and Retain Act

Primary Sponsors
 Deb Fischer

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 644	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2023 03 02	In Senate	None	None	14.8% 76.3%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-03-02

Modernizing Opioid Treatment Access Act

Primary Sponsors

Ed Markey

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 713	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On The Judiciary 2023 03 08	In Senate	None	None	15.9% 68.5%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-03-08

No Early Release for Carjackers Act of 2023

Primary Sponsors

Tom Cotton

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 971	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Finance 2023 03 23	In Senate	None	None	9.9% 79.4%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-03-23

Due Process Continuity of Care Act

Description

Due Process Continuity of Care Act This bill allows an otherwise eligible individual who is in custody pending disposition of charges (i.e., pretrial detainees) to receive Medicaid benefits at the option of the state. The bill also provides for state planning grants to support the provision of such benefits.

Primary Sponsors

Bill Cassidy

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 1047	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Commerce Science And Transportation 2023 03 29	In Senate	None	None	20.6% 70.8%

Title Introduction Date: 2023-03-29

Cellphone Jamming Reform Act of 2023

Description

Cellphone Jamming Reform Act of 2023 This bill allows a state or federal correctional facility to operate a jamming system to interfere with cellphone signals within inmate housing facilities.

Primary Sponsors

Tom Cotton

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