



Presentation to
**Michigan Law
Revision Commission**

Initial Planning Meeting
Criminal Sentencing Study

May 22, 2013

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Organization of Presentation



Justice Center Background

**Sentencing Study and Justice
Reinvestment**

Process Moving Forward

Organization of Presentation

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Council of State Governments Justice Center

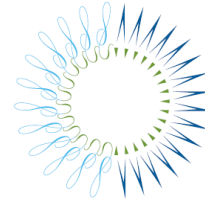
- National non-profit, non-partisan membership association of state government officials
- Engages members of all three branches of state government
- Justice Center provides practical, nonpartisan advice informed by the best available evidence



You May Know Us from Our Justice Reinvestment Work

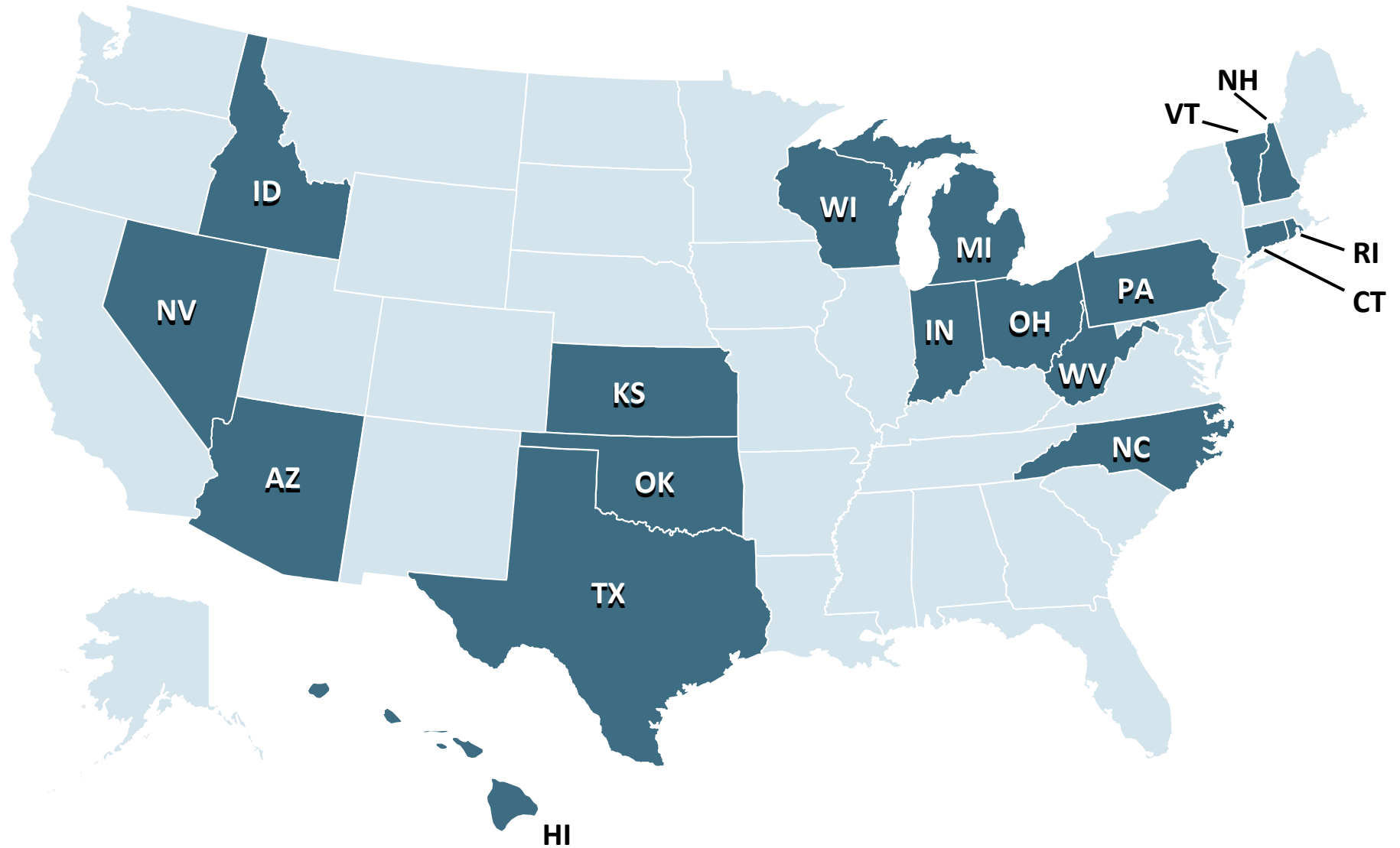
Justice Reinvestment

*a data-driven approach to reduce corrections spending
and reinvest savings in strategies that can
decrease recidivism and increase public safety.*

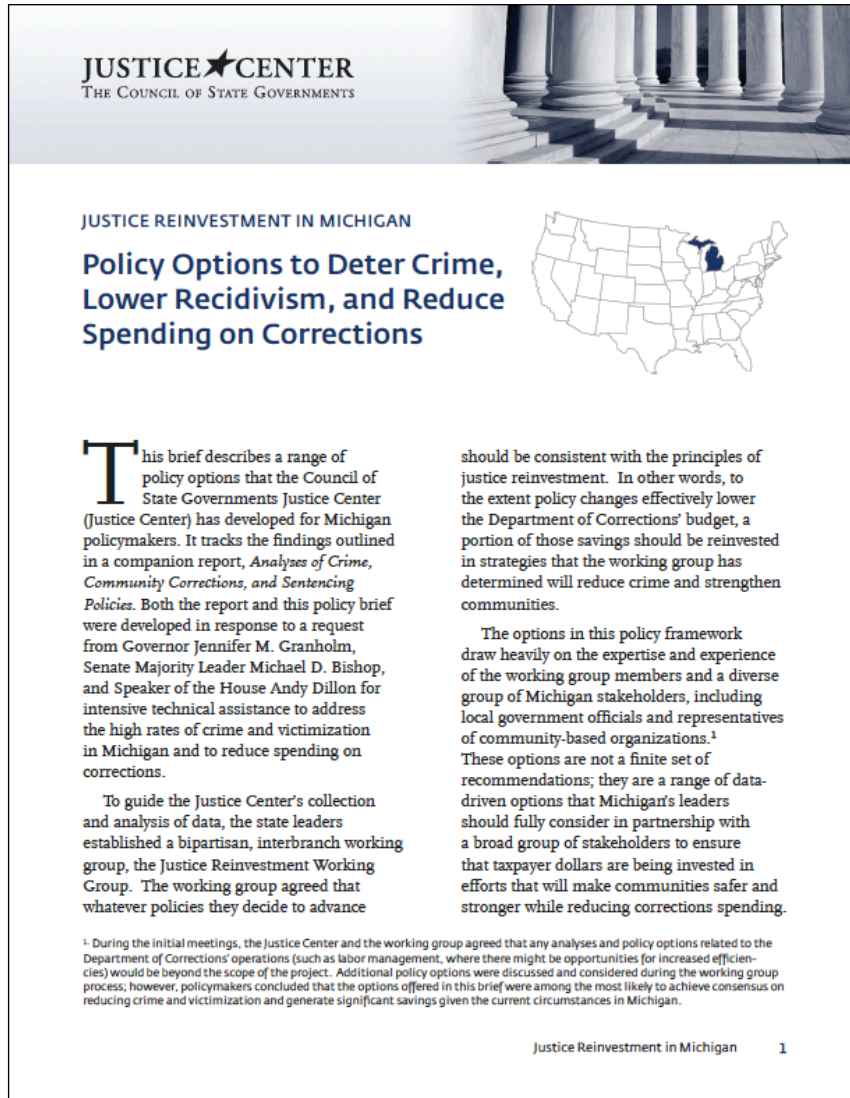


Public Safety
Performance
Project

CSG Justice Reinvestment States to Date



Summary Michigan Justice Reinvestment from 2008-10



2008: Working Group formed and research conducted

2009: Final report and policy options delivered

2010: Despite not making any statutory changes, State invested in the following:

- Law enforcement strategies to reduce crime
- Risk reduction strategies for high-risk probationers
- Additional parole agents
- GPS electronic monitoring
- Reentry programming

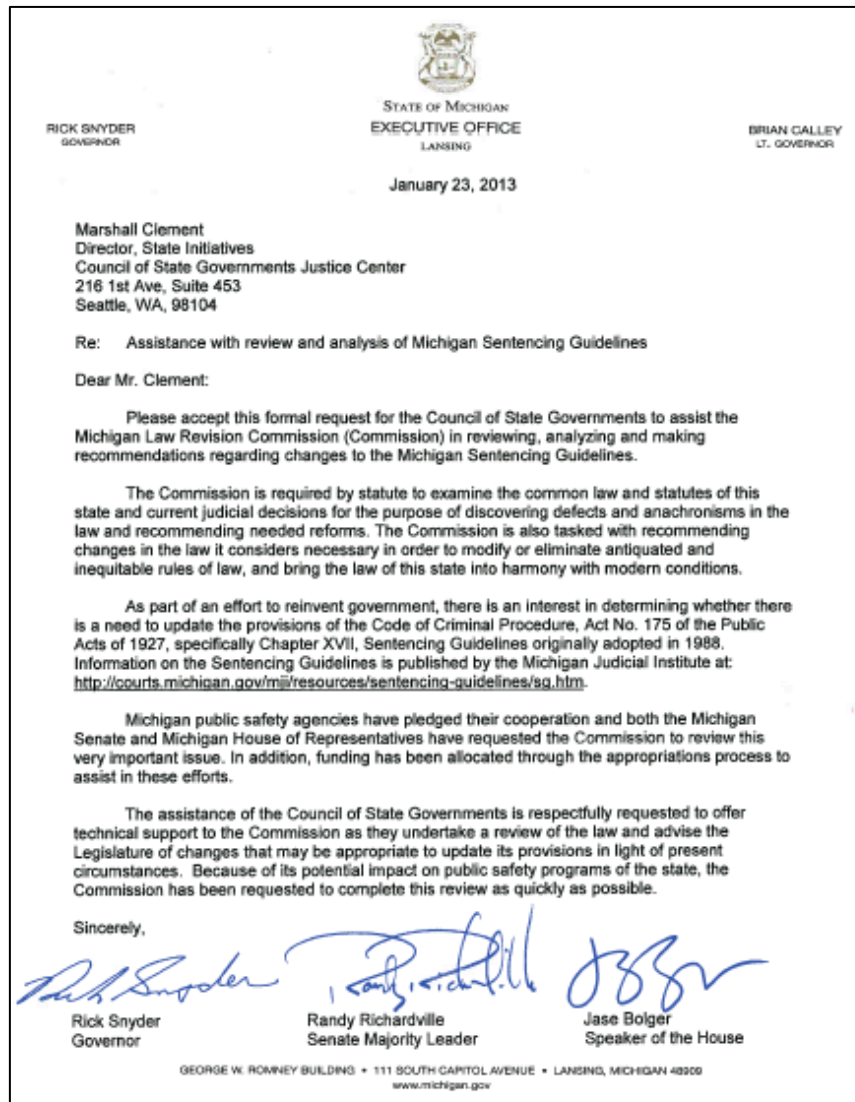
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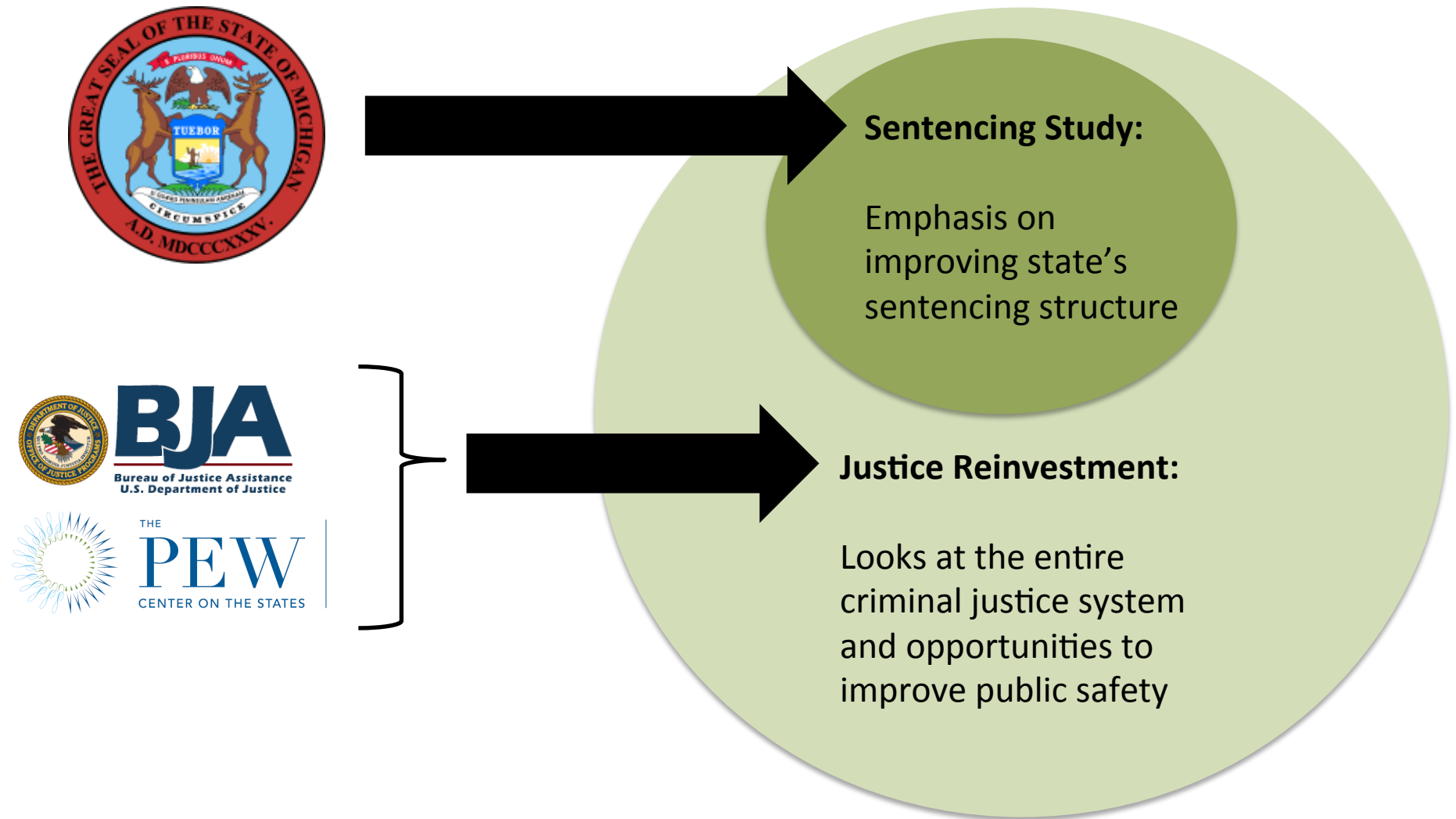
State Leaders Request Assistance with Sentencing Study



SB 233

Sec. 351. The funds appropriated in part 1 for the legislative council shall be used for a contract with the Council of State Governments to **continue its review of Michigan's sentencing guidelines and practices, including, but not limited to, studying length of prison stay and parole board discretion.**

Additional Opportunity to Incorporate Sentencing Study Within Justice Reinvestment Initiative



Recent JR Projects in West Virginia and Kansas

Further Illustrate Sentencing Issues versus JR Issues



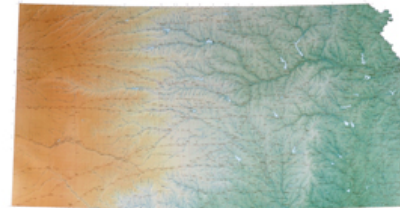
West Virginia **SB 371**

Sentencing

Statutory sentence ranges give parole board more influence over length of incarceration, but generous good time incentivized max-outs.

Broader JR

Failure to use risk assessment and fund community based treatment causes increasing recidivism.



Kansas **HB 2170**

Sentencing

Lack of statutory sentencing options forced judges to choose between doing nothing or full revocation as response to purely technical violations

Broader JR

Inadequate funding of community-based treatment and failure to focus resources on higher risk probationers led to poor outcomes

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Process Moving Forward

Key Components of the Process: Data, Collaboration and Leadership

Data

Justice Center synthesizes and conceptualizes the data that Michigan provides

- System flow/dynamics
- Guideline scoring
- Risk reduction capacity

Collaboration

Justice Center supports in convening state leaders to participate in active discussions

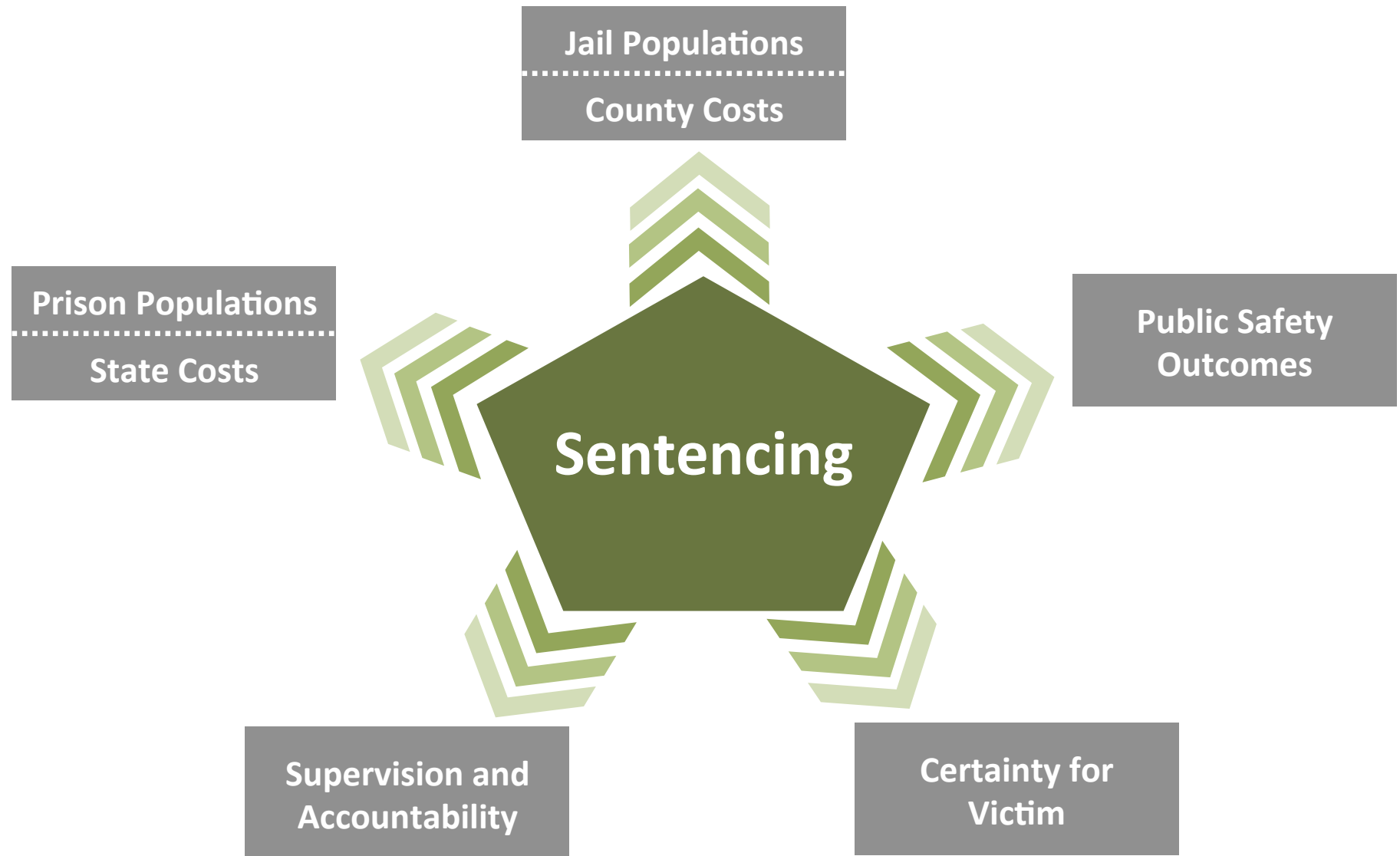
- Bipartisan
- Inter-branch
- Inter-disciplinary

Leadership

Michigan provides leadership and the Justice Center provides support

- Communication
- Policy adoption
- Sustainability

Project to Focus on Numerous Areas Impacted by Sentencing



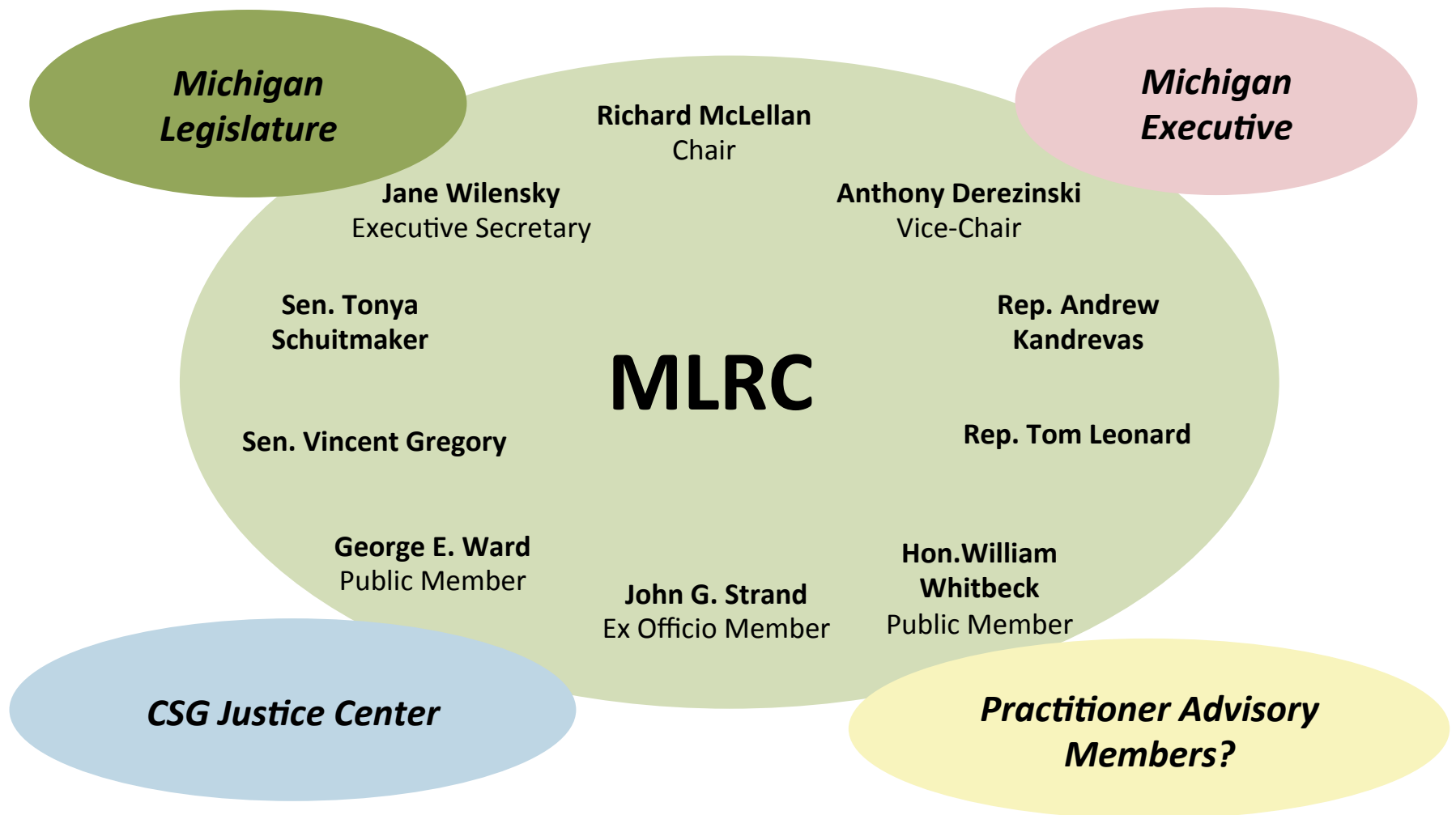
Justice Center Data Requests Are Underway

Data	Source	Status
Crime and Arrest	State Police	
Criminal History	State Police	
Court Dispositions	Judiciary; DOC	Requested
Jail	Kent and Jackson Counties; DOC	
Community Corrections	Kent and Jackson Counties	
Probation	Department of Corrections	Requested
Prison	Department of Corrections	Requested
Parole	Department of Corrections	Requested
Parole Board Decision-Making	Department of Corrections	Requested
Behavioral Health Treatment	???	

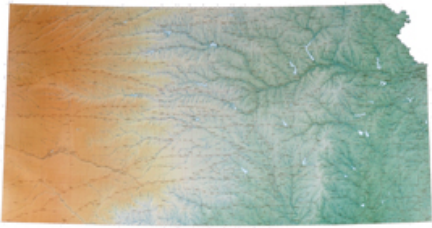
Project Will Require *Stakeholder Engagement*



Project Will Require ***Collaboration and Leadership***



Project Will Require *Significant Commitment*



Four

2-3 hour meetings with the
Justice Reinvestment
Working Group

75+

in-person meetings with
stakeholders in the
criminal justice system

1.2 million

data records analyzed



Four

2-3 hour meetings with the
Justice Reinvestment
Working Group

100+

in-person meetings with
stakeholders in the
criminal justice system

650,000+

data records analyzed



At Least Five

2-3 hour meetings with the
Michigan Law
Revision Commission



???

in-person meetings with
stakeholders in the
criminal justice system

???

data records analyzed

Tentative Project Timeline

Dates	Activity
May – October 2013	Data Collection
June 20	MLRC Meeting – Kick off
June	Begin soliciting stakeholder input
July-August	Finish data collection & begin detailed data analysis
September	MLRC Meeting – Review Findings
September-October	Additional data analysis & meetings with stakeholders
November	MLRC Meeting – Review Findings
December 21, 2013	 at 
January 2014	MLRC Meeting – Review Findings
January – March 2014	Model potential policy options
March 2014	MLRC Meeting – Discuss Policy Options
March – October	Brief state leaders & stakeholders on policy options



Thank You

Carl Reynolds

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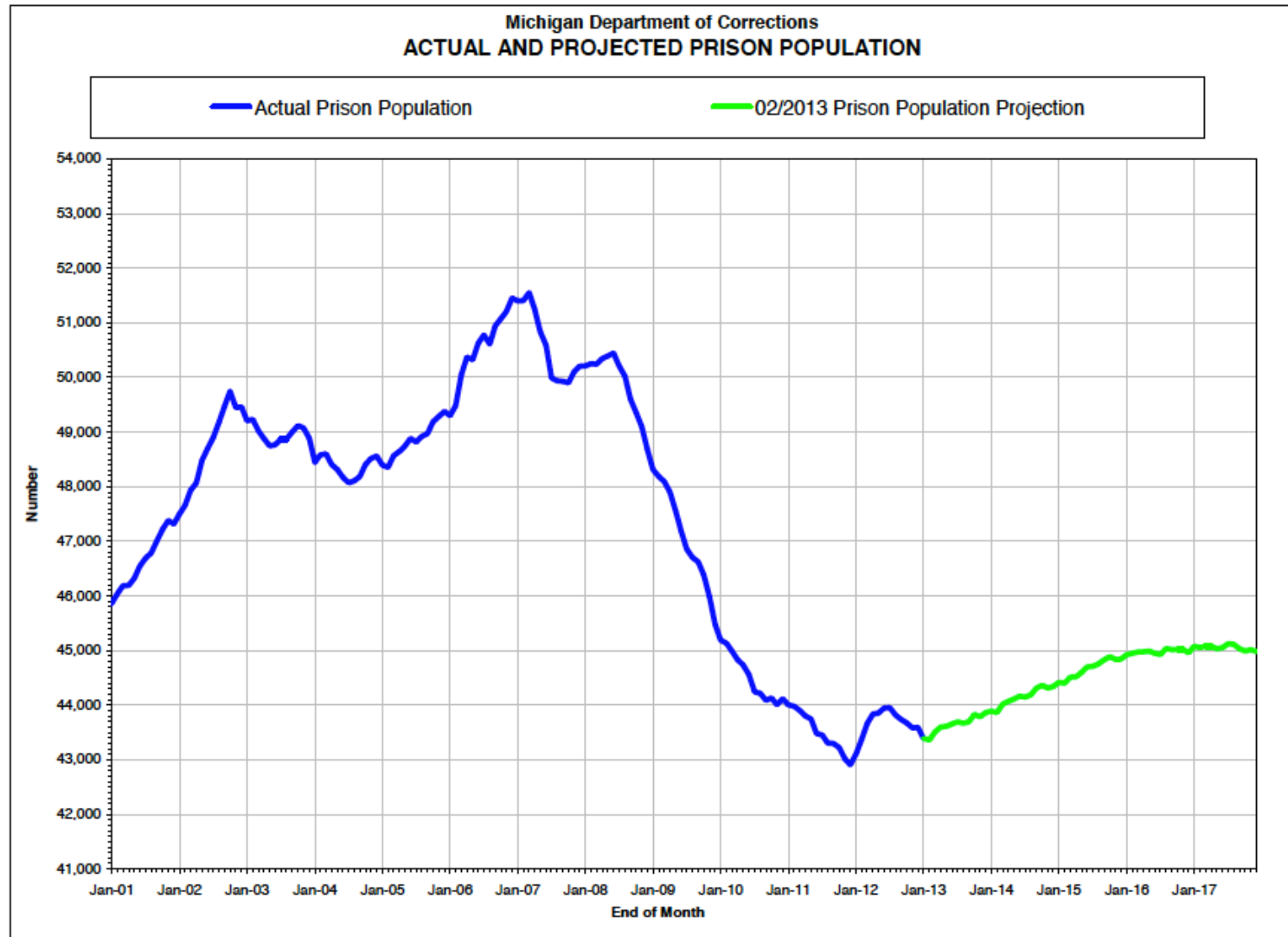
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THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

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Prison Population Has Declined, but Is Expected to Rebound



Source: MDOC Office of Research & Planning 2/07/2013