

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, May 24, 2019

Contact: Kate McCracken
Phone: 517.225.3186
Email: kate@safeandjustmi.org

Safe & Just
Michigan

*Safe & Just Michigan Executive Director John Cooper
applauds new medically frail parole law:*

“Safe & Just Michigan is happy to see that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has signed medically frail parole into law. This common-sense reform is long overdue and will provide cost relief to the Department of Corrections and a path to more appropriate care to many medically frail people in Michigan’s prison system.

“However, as we stated in testimony as this legislation passed through the Legislature, this law excludes many of the people it was designed to help from eligibility based on the crime they committed instead of their current medical frailty. Medically frail people do not – by definition – pose any risk to the public. It makes little sense from a policy perspective to exclude them from eligibility, as doing so undercuts the goals this law is designed to accomplish. We hope that the Legislature revisits this decision in the future once this program has shown that paroling medically frail prisoners is the smart and right thing to do.”

###

Safe & Just Michigan (www.safeandjustmi.org) works to advance policies that end Michigan’s over-use of incarceration and promote community safety and healing. We partner with Michigan organizations and leaders from across the political spectrum, including business and community leaders, faith communities, crime survivor organizations, formerly incarcerated individuals, prisoners and their families, as well as Michigan taxpayers statewide.