

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Safe & Just
Michigan

*Statement from Safe & Just Michigan Executive Director
John Cooper on the enactment of “Raise the Age” legislation:*

“October is Youth Justice Awareness month, and it is therefore fitting that today, Gov. **Gretchen Whitmer** signed into law Michigan's long-awaited ‘Raise the Age’ package, which will raise the default age of criminal responsibility in Michigan from 17 to 18. It was an honor to work in partnership with the many legislators, organizations and advocates that worked for years to see this day happen. Raise the Age will make a real difference in the lives of the hundreds of 17-year-olds Michigan who will now treated as the juveniles they are in the juvenile justice system.”

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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.