

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Safe & Just**  
Michigan

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*Statement from Safe & Just Michigan Executive Director John S. Cooper  
on the introduction of legislation stemming from the jails task force:*

“It’s encouraging to see the introduction of legislation based on the grounds of the jails task force report, which gave policymakers the first comprehensive look at Michigan’s jail system. The task force’s recommendations would make a number of important changes to Michigan’s criminal justice system — from ending the suspension of driver’s licenses for reasons that have nothing to do with unsafe driving to getting rid of mandatory minimums for jail sentences — that will both save money and improve public safety. It’s even more encouraging to see that these proposals have such strong bipartisan support in the Capitol — just as they do among the public. We hope to see all of the proposals made by the Michigan Joint Task Force on Jail and Pretrial Incarceration taken up as legislation and quickly passed into law.”

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Safe & Just Michigan ([www.safeandjustmi.org](http://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.