

From: "Rep. Trey Hollingsworth" <trey@mail.house.gov> To: Carter.Moelk@mail.house.gov Subject: Poll: Cash Bail System Date: Wed, 02 Mar 2022 12:50:45 -0500 Dear Hoosiers, In both the federal and state court systems, individuals charged with crimes are often offered bail, a set amount of money decided by a judge that, if escrowed, allows the accused to remain outside of jail leading up to trial. If bail cannot be paid, then alleged criminals are detained in jail until proceedings begin. Over the last few years, states across the country, including New Jersey, Kentucky, Nebraska, and more have proposed and enacted legislation reforming the cash bail system, and states such as California and New York have gone as far as eliminating their cash bail system. Many Americans believe that the cash bail system needs to be reconstructed or eradicated altogether as part of larger criminal justice reform. Proponents argue that high cash bail amounts punish the poor and reward the well-off with median bail amounts around \$10,000 per felony. Cash bail financial burdens fall often on low-income women and people of color, who make up 69% of the pretrial population. Opponents of overhauling the cash bail system cite recidivism rates in states with lax or nonexistent cash bail systems. For example, the New York Police Department reported that in 2019, 19.5% of all non-bail eligible felony arrestees were re-arrested at least once after the initial non-bail felony, and in "2020, the eligible group was re-arrested 4,207 times (2.3 arrests per arrestee)." Additionally, 34.5% of the 2020 re-arrests committed at least one of the seven major crimes (e.g., murder, burglary, larceny, et cetera). Many Americans believe that the cash bail system is vital for protecting communities from criminal activity and keeping our families and loved ones safe. QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Are you in favor of eliminating the cash bail system? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know ☐ Other Dear Hoosiers, In both the federal and state court systems, individuals charged with crimes are often offered bail, a set amount of money decided by a judge that, if escrowed, allows the accused to remain outside of jail leading up to trial. If bail cannot be paid, then alleged criminals are detained in jail until proceedings begin. Over the last few years, states across the country, including New Jersey, Kentucky, Nebraska, and more have proposed and enacted legislation reforming the cash bail system, and states such as California and New York have gone as far as eliminating their cash bail system. Many Americans believe that the cash bail system needs to be reconstructed or eradicated altogether as part of larger criminal justice reform. Proponents argue that high cash bail amounts punish the poor and reward the well-off with median bail amounts around \$10,000 per felony. Cash bail financial burdens fall often on low-income women and people of color, who make up 69% of the pretrial population. Opponents of overhauling the cash bail system cite recidivism rates in states with lax or nonexistent cash bail systems. For example, the New York Police Department reported that in 2019, 19.5% of all non-bail eligible felony arrestees were re-arrested at least once after the initial non-bail felony, and in "2020, the eligible group was re-arrested 4,207 times (2.3 arrests per arrestee)." Additionally, 34.5% of the 2020 re-arrests committed at least one of the seven major crimes (e.g., murder, burglary, larceny, et cetera). Many Americans believe that the cash bail system is vital for protecting communities from criminal activity and keeping our families and loved ones safe. QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Are you in favor of eliminating the cash bail system? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know ☐ Other Jeffersonville 321 Quartermaster Court Jeffersonville, IN 47130 Phone: 812.288.3999 Franklin 100 E Jefferson Street

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