

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LAW
THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE & SENTENCING REFORM

Thursday, May 14, 2015
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Room 348-N, Stratton Building
State Capitol
Springfield, IL

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Leipold (Chair), Kelly, Pelletier, Robb

The Law Subcommittee met on May 14, 2015, from 11:00 to 1:00 in Springfield, IL.

The Subcommittee first approved the minutes of the April 25th meeting.

The Subcommittee then briefly discussed whether there was pending legislation that would affect the work of the subcommittee. After discussion of some of the pending bills, it was decided that, while it was important to be aware of pending legislation, there was no reason at this time to change anything the subcommittee would be considering.

The Subcommittee next considered various proposals to reduce the prison population in Illinois. There was extensive discussion of a proposal submitted by the Illinois ACLU that would reduce the severity level of many drug possession crimes. The subcommittee heard from Benjamin Ruddell, a Criminal Justice Policy Attorney from the ACLU who was present at the meeting. The Subcommittee concluded that the proposal was worth further study

The Subcommittee also discussed ideas for increasing the number of probationable offenses and decreasing mandatory minimum sentences, and for increasing good time credits. The Subcommittee also considered whether there should be changes to the rules that govern concurrent and consecutive sentences.

Although the meeting agenda indicated that methods for reducing recidivism would be discussed, those topics were put off until the next meeting.

The Subcommittee adjourned at 1:00 p.m.