

THE ROAD HOME DOESN'T HAVE TO BE SO LONG!

Why Are DC Residents Forced So Far Away From Home?

45% of incarcerated DC residents that are trapped in the Federal Bureau of Prison (FBOP) are over 500 miles from home. That distance causes a **breakdown in family relations** and creates **unsafe mental health conditions**, which makes it **difficult to be successful** in daily programs and reentry.

dc policy center

THE IMPACT

- Over 90% of incarcerated D.C. residents are minority/black.
- This distance hinders family communication, visitation and morale support. It strains mental health stability.
- This distance causes hurt and grief for families of the incarcerated. Some are children, parents, husbands, wives and siblings. There is a ripple effect. Our communities lack leaders, fathers, mothers!! Children are growing up without their parents.
- Having the incarcerated 150 miles or closer helps build family bonds, conversation of guidance, it strengthens family values, learned empathy, and shared hobbies. Which all creates healthy lifestyle habits.

"WHEN D.C. PRISONERS ARE HELD IN FACILITIES HUNDREDS OF MILES FROM HOME, THEY SAY, REHABILITATION AND RE-ENTRY BECOME MORE CHALLENGING."

*Martin Austermuhle- D.C. Inmates Serve Time Hundreds Of Miles From Home. Is It Time To Bring Them Back?
WAMU*

According to the Vera Institute of Justice (Family Justice Program) Regardless of their sentencing status or length of incarceration, jailed men and women indicated they relied on family and friends to support them and assist in planning for reentering the community. Their stated reentry needs, besides emotional support while in jail, included housing, employment, and child care, and they said they anticipated relying on their loved ones throughout the process of reentry. Among the many types of support that participants received or expected to receive from their families, the most commonly voiced were the expectations that their families would help them stay drug free and meet their parole obligations.

THE SOLUTION:

Congress should pass H.R.3339 - Improving Reentry for District of Columbia Residents in the Bureau of Prisons Act of 2023 with an amendment to limit the distance to 150 driving miles.

D.C. Residents, Family and Friends it's our time!! Lets stand for our people. Join together and place your signatures on this petition!! Let's band together and make a difference. There are over 1000 of our friends and family away from home needing healthy communication and emotional support. Let's show Them **WE CARE!!**

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