



Commission on Sentencing

64th Montana Legislature

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November 15, 2016

Chief Justice Mike McGrath
Montana Supreme Court
PO Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620-3001

Dear Chief Justice McGrath,

The 64th Montana Legislature created the Commission on Sentencing in Senate Bill No. 224. The commission met regularly through 2015 and 2016 to study Montana's criminal justice system as required by the bill.

As part of this study, the commission considered revisions to statutes governing eligibility criteria for the state's drug and mental health treatment courts. The commissioners also received updates from commission member Judge Ingrid Gustafson of the Thirteenth Judicial District about the Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee's work on this issue, including the advisory committee's intent to propose similar legislation to the 2017 Legislature. Instead of offering a duplicate draft, the commission voted in September 2016 to lend its support to the Supreme Court's existing bill draft LC0188.

Please feel free to contact either of us with questions about the Commission on Sentencing or the commission's support of LC0188.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Sen. Cynthia Wolken.

Sen. Cynthia Wolken
Commission Presiding Officer

Handwritten signature of Sen. Kristin Hansen.

Sen. Kristin Hansen
Commission Vice Presiding Officer

cc:

The Honorable Kurt Krueger, Second Judicial District, Chairman of the Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee
Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator

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