

Name: Mark Ambrose

Title:

Organization or Agency:

Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed

NA

Testimony:

#149427

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Dear Correctional Advisory Committee,

I am writing about the conditions of confinement inside the Connecticut Department of Correction. First of all the conditions with medical are horrible for prisoners where you are writing requests to be seen and not being called down to be seen. A lot of the medical conditions could be prevented if prisoners were seen in a timely manner and their medical issues were addressed. DOC does not do physicals on prisoners, only blood work. Myself? I haven't had a physical since 1999 when I had surgery on my torn ACL.

DOC currently has an issue on its hands with elder prisoners, those 55 and over. They are being housed in double bunk cells where most of these men/women can't climb to get on a top bunk. Every prisoner 55 and over should be given a bottom bunk pass where they don't have to climb on top of a bed. There should be elder parole for those 55 and over as they pose less risk and have aged out of crime and would be less likely to return. Along with Massachusetts, our neighboring state, the House and Senate just passed an elder parole bill at 55 years old a few days ago. The costs of keeping these people incarcerated is only going to balloon as these people get older. Connecticut is number one in the US as the average age per prisoner is 40 years old.

Lastly there needs to be a second chance for juvenile parole for those from under 21 to under 26.

Thank you for your time and hearing my concerns.

Best regards,

Mark Ambrose