Memorandum

To: Interested Parties
From: Tony Fabrizio and Bob Ward
Date: August 5, 2025
Re: Criminal Justice Reform and the Safer Supervision Act

Our firm recently surveyed 1,000 voters nationally as well as 1,000 voters in 28 Targeted Congressional Districts (TCD), the most competitive districts that will decide control of Congress at the midterms, on the topics of criminal justice reform and the Safer Supervision Act. The TCDs include the 15 districts House Republicans won by 5% or less in 2024 as well as the 13 districts won by House Democrats but also carried by President Trump in 2024.

Bottom Line: Reform of the supervised release system has a clear political benefit for Republicans in their fight to keep control of Congress. Both the Trump base and the Swing voters who will determine the outcomes in the most competitive House districts see the benefits of making it easier for the recently incarcerated to get back into the workforce, paying taxes and contributing to society. They would rather see law enforcement resources spent on locking up violent offenders than spending resources checking on the activities of low-risk former inmates. Voters from all political backgrounds, including the Trump base, see getting the supervised release system back to its roots of focusing on parolees of higher risk, and easing the overburdened caseload of probation officers as a key reason for supporting the reforms.

In the TCDs, there is strong agreement on key pillars of criminal justice reform
On top of agreement being strong overall, agreement is very high among Trump voters and Swing voters, the voters who split their tickets and will determine which party controls Congress after the midterms. Making public safety a top priority of reform is near universally agreed to, most intensely by Trump voters. More than four in five voters agree that getting non-violent offenders back into the workforce helps taxpayers, businesses, and makes communities safer. Three out of four Trump voters want our system of justice more focused on dangerous criminals than non-violent offenders.

Agree (Strongly Agree)	TCD Voters	Trump Voters	Swing Voters
Any criminal justice reform must put public safety as its top priority.	91 (69)	96 (86)	86 (61)
Getting non-violent offenders trained, out of prison, and back into the workforce creates safer communities.	86 (48)	82 (39)	82 (39)
Getting non-violent offenders trained, out of prison, and back into the workforce helps taxpayers and local businesses.	83 (50)	82 (48)	79 (44)
Our justice system should be more focused on dangerous criminals rather than non-violent offenders.	81 (52)	75 (47)	75 (44)

Each component tested of the Safer Supervision Act is very popular with TCD voters overall and among the key groups of Trump voters and Swing voters
The most broad and intense bipartisan support is for the idea that parolees will be most successful reentering society when we invest in their support to keep them on the right track. Each one of these elements of the SSA receives support from no fewer than three out of four voters.

Support (Strongly Support)	TCD Voters	Trump Voters	Swing Voters
Invest in programs that increase the chances that those on parole will succeed in their reentry into society such as housing assistance, education and job training, addiction treatment, and mental health support.	87 (56)	81 (43)	84 (43)
Creating incentives for good and productive behavior by former inmates under supervised release that can lead to an early end of their parole.	84 (45)	79 (38)	81 (38)
Allowing more judicial discretion on minor drug possession violations by those on parole, allowing judges to consider treatment or rehabilitation instead of mandatory reimprisonment.	77 (45)	68 (32)	72 (39)
Ending the need for supervised release for low-risk former inmates so they can focus on getting good jobs and contributing to society while freeing up resources to focus supervision on high-risk former inmates.	76 (40)	72 (36)	72 (31)
Moving away from a one-size-fits-all approach that ensures supervision upon release from prison is imposed only when a judge deems it is warranted by the facts of each case.	76 (36)	69 (30)	73 (26)
Allowing more judicial discretion when those on parole commit technical violations like missing a phone check-in instead of automatically sending them back to prison.	75 (43)	70 (34)	71 (36)

79% of voters nationally and 77% of voters in the TCDs support the Safer Supervision Act when told that is the legislation to reform the parole and probation system that includes each of the elements tested above
Not only is overall voter support high, about 3-in-4 Trump voters and Swing voters in the TCDs are in support with very limited opposition.

There is legislation in Congress called the Safer Supervision Act, which would reform the federal parole and probation system to include the policies we just discussed. Do you support or oppose the Safer Supervision Act?	TCD Voters	Trump Voters	Swing Voters
Net Support	**+67**	**+61**	**+61**
Support	77	74	73
Oppose	10	13	12
Unsure	13	13	14

A member of Congress supporting the Safer Supervision Act would gain at the polls, and most voters want President Trump to issue an executive order to accomplish the policies of the Safer Supervision Act
In the all-important TCDs, a voter would be more likely to vote for their member of Congress if they supported the Safer Supervision Act by a 56% - 10% margin. Among Trump voters that figure was 54% - 11%, and among Swing voters it is 50% - 10%. There is virtually no political downside, and consider benefit for Republicans in key races to support the SSA.

Nationally, voters favor President Trump implementing some of these parole and supervised release policies by executive order, 59% - 29%. In the TCDs, the margin is even wider at 62% - 25%. TCD Trump voters back POTUS doing this via executive order 81% - 10%, while TCD Swing voters support it 56% - 27%.

Voters from all political backgrounds, including the Trump base, see getting the supervised release system back to its roots as a convincing reason to support reform
When told the Act would allow parole and probation resources to get back to their original mission and lessen the burden of officers providing appropriate supervision for those who need it, 75% of voters nationally and 70% in the TCDs say that is a convincing reason to pass the bill.

Our parole and probation resources should return to their original mission, focused on people with high risks. Federal probation officers report significant caseloads that can exceed 100 cases per officer and include many people who pose no safety risk. This creates a burden for the officers and limits their ability to provide appropriate supervision for those who need it.	TCD Voters	Trump Voters	Swing Voters
Net Convincing	**+48**	**+47**	**+41**
Convincing	70	69	65
Unconvincing	22	22	24
Unsure	8	9	11

Efforts to reform the supervised release system come on the heels of the politically successful First Step Act, which is broadly supported
Voters support the First Step Act that was signed into law by President Trump in 2018 as a reform to make communities safer by preparing inmates for safe and successful reentry into the community by a 75% - 13% margin nationally and 75% - 14% margin in the TCDs. TCD Trump voters back the First Step Act, 78% - 14%, while TCD Swing voters support it, 73% - 15%.

Methodology

Fabrizio Ward conducted two surveys on behalf of the Reform Alliance from July 7-10, 2025, each of 1,000 registered voters; one was conducted nationally, the other in the 28 most competitive House districts* – the 15 districts won by the current Republican member by a margin of 5% or less in 2024 and the 13 districts won by a Democrat but also won by President Trump. In both surveys, quotas were set by age, gender, partisan affiliation, education, and race/ethnicity. Nationally, quotas were set by region; in the TCDs, an equal number of interviews were conducted in each district. Data was weighted by age, gender, recalled 2024 vote, education, and race/ethnicity. Margin of sampling error for n1,000 is ±3.1% at the 95% confidence level. The interviews were conducted via cell phones (35%), landlines (25%), and SMS-to-Web (40%) to voters sampled from the voter file.

Key Demographics

Party Affiliation

	Nat	TCD
Republican	36	38
Independent	22	24
Democrat	34	33
Something else	4	2
Refused	4	3

Age

	Nat	TCD
18-34	25	25
35-49	24	23
50-64	24	24
65+	25	26
Refused	2	3

2024 Vote

	Nat	TCD
Donald Trump	42	44
Kamala Harris	41	40
Someone else	4	3
Did not vote	10	10
Refused	3	3

Education

	Nat	TCD
High School or Less	23	20
Some College	40	42
4-Year College	23	24
Post-Grad degree	13	14
Refused	1	*

Race/Ethnicity

	Nat	TCD
White	66	66
Latino/Hispanic	12	18
African American/Black	11	6
Asian American	4	4
Native American	2	3
Other (SPECIFY)	2	2
Refused	3	2

Gender

	Nat	TCD
Male	48	48
Female	52	52
Other	*	*

*Districts surveyed – GOP Held: AK-AL; AZ-01; AZ-06; CA-41; CO-03; CO-08; IA-01; IA-03; MI-07; NE-02; PA-07; PA-08; PA-10; VA-02; WI-03; Dem Held: CA-09; CA-13; ME-02; MI-08; NC-01; NJ-09; NM-02; NV-03; NY-03; OH-09; TX-28; TX-34; WA-03