



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **House Passes HB 1269 to Implement SQ 780 Retroactivity**

The Oklahoma House today passed House Bill 1269, making State Question 780, which was overwhelmingly approved by Oklahoma voters and changed simple drug possession and several low-level property crimes to misdemeanors instead of felonies, retroactive. The bill is expected to be taken up by the Senate soon. Its Nov. 1 effective date means justice-involved Oklahomans will likely see relief beginning this year.

Kris Steele, executive director of Oklahomans for Criminal Justice Reform, issued the following statement:

“This bill can send a lot of Oklahomans home for the holidays this year, where they need to be, and help thousands more get outdated felonies off their records so they can better their lives. Justice-involved people and families statewide are very appreciative of the bold, bipartisan cooperation this session to make State Question 780 retroactive. We applaud the outstanding leadership the Legislature is showing in advancing this bill, and look forward to it reaching the governor’s desk alongside four more active reforms that, coupled with retroactivity, can finally get Oklahoma out of No. 1 in incarceration.”

In addition to HB 1269, the four remaining reforms supported by OCJR that are still active in the Legislature to stop prison growth and get Oklahoma out of No. 1 in incarceration are:

- Bail reform (SB 252)
- Possession with intent to distribute reform (HB 1100)
- Sentence enhancement reform (HB 2009)

- Supervision reform (SB 616 and HB 2218)

**About Oklahomans for Criminal Justice Reform**

Oklahomans for Criminal Justice Reform advances safety, restoration and freedom in Oklahoma. We are a coalition of business and community leaders, law enforcement experts, service providers and advocates committed to justice reforms that improve public safety by reducing Oklahoma's bloated prison population, saving taxpayer dollars, reinvesting in alternatives and keeping families together.

To learn more, visit <https://okjusticereform.org>.

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