

Coalition asks Governor to create equitable pathways for release from prison to address historic and systemic discrimination against transgender and gender nonconforming people.

### **Pervasive Discrimination Against Transgender and Gender Nonconforming People**

Discrimination at Home and in the Community

**Discrimination at Home and in the Community:** Transgender and gender nonconforming people experience disproportionate rates of family rejection, child welfare involvement, and homelessness; school-based harassment, bullying, assault, and disciplinary action; employment, housing, and healthcare discrimination; hate-based violence; policing and criminalization; and court-based discrimination and harassment.

Disproportionate Incarceration

**Disproportionate Incarceration:** As a result of this lifelong and pervasive discrimination, transgender and gender nonconforming people experience disproportionate involvement with the criminal legal system and high rates of incarceration.

Discrimination in Prison

**Discrimination:** Once incarcerated, transgender and gender nonconforming people are subjected to further discrimination and poor conditions of confinement, including physical and sexual violence, retaliation, denial of gender affirming mental and physical care, and isolation. This is exacerbated by CDCR's failure to properly implement SB 132, *the Transgender Respect, Dignity, and Agency Act*.

Barriers to Rehabilitative Programming

**Barriers to Rehabilitative Programming:** As a result of discrimination and violence perpetrated against them in prison, many transgender and gender nonconforming people are placed in segregated housing units where they are unable to participate in rehabilitative programming, work, and education. Those who are not placed in segregation still face barriers to those opportunities, often experiencing discrimination and humiliation when they attempt to access them.

Barriers to Release

**Barriers to Release:** Because rehabilitative efforts are heavily weighted in parole, resentencing, and clemency decisions, transgender and gender nonconforming people who face systemic barriers to participation in programming often face insurmountable barriers to release. Transgender and gender nonconforming people likewise face explicit and implicit bias in discretionary release processes, all of which result in difficulties obtaining release from prison.

### **Coalition Asks Governor to Employ Equitable Solutions to Address Pervasive Discrimination**

- 1) Cease Indefinite Isolation Without Access to Rehabilitative Programming.**
- 2) Increase Access to Credit Earning Opportunities.**
- 3) Properly Implement SB 132, *The Transgender Respect, Agency, And Dignity Act*.**
- 4) Grant Clemency to TNI people.**