

- I have been a case worker since 2001 and I recall when calculation of good time was in place for the majority of the population (depending on “sentencing rules”). Awarding Good Time and regular calculation for all incarcerated offenders will present immense challenges in my opinion. First and foremost, this will add significant workload to case workers and admin staff that are already overwhelmed with an ever evolving system that continues to add duties without an increase in staff to inmate ratio.
- Based on my experience consistency of Good Time award has been an issue in the past due to the discretionary nature of the practice. The concern is that DOC has a financial interest in moving prisoners out and will award GT whether the inmate has earned it or not just to get them out of the system. This is what has happened in the past.
- The front line CO’s should decide when GT is awarded. Central Office just wants them to get out.
- GT should be for exemplary behavior. We should tie rec time, visitors and additional freedom to consistent good behavior. It shouldn’t be given for the lack of bad behavior.
- If GT is to be considered, it should be a simple formula. Either the inmate qualifies or they don’t. Make it simple-no major DR’s , consistently attending programing, school, or work if specified. No other caveats needed.
- I believe that the unprecedented movement/ transfer from facility to facility of offenders throughout the state and turnover from one case workers case load to another will pose a challenge for Facility caseworkers in calculation. Projecting entry for risk or sex offender program entry for all offenders would require constant updating. Projecting release dates and transitional planning for release to the community will additionally be under a constant state of change. We could essentially project and plan for an inmate to be release eligible on a certain date using calculations that he or she will earn the full amount. If the inmate fails to earn the full amount this could have a ripple effect on services that have been secured in the community to include housing, medical, treatment, and community based program entry. I forgot to mention that our OMS system requires manual input of any data or changes in release dates. I feel as though I have just scratched the surface with the challenges that I have tried to articulate. This is a huge undertaking and in my opinion would call for significant planning and increase in staffing.
- This should not be for violent, repeat offenders. Some people belong in jail
- I think the unit officers dealing with the inmates should determine good time earnings. Too many times I have seen inmates acting amuck in the units earning good time especially because minor DR's don't matter to the courts. This does not support our pro-social behavior initiative.

This allows them to treat of staff, educators and volunteers with disrespect on a daily basis and still get out early I am not for it. Besides letting them out early does not help our communities deal with the bad behaviors any better!

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