



FAMM AND ACLU of VIRGINIA RELEASE JOINT STATEMENT ON PASSAGE OF INDEPENDENT PRISON
OVERSIGHT

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(MARCH 8, 2024) RICHMOND, Va. — Following unanimous votes in both chambers, ACLU of Virginia’s Policy and Advocacy Strategist Shawn Weneta and FAMM’s Vice President of Policy Daniel Landsman released the following statement regarding the passage of HB 555/SB 456:

“Prison safety is public safety. Today’s passage of independent oversight of Virginia’s prisons is a critically necessary first step toward ensuring taxpayer dollars are invested in a prison system that treats everyone inside – staff and incarcerated people alike – with care and dignity. We applaud the legislature for their bipartisan support of independent prison oversight, and encourage Governor Youngkin to sign this important legislation into law.”

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***FAMM** is a national nonpartisan advocacy organization that promotes fair and effective criminal justice policies that safely reduce incarceration, save taxpayer dollars, and keep families together. Founded in 1991, FAMM has secured bold sentencing and prison reform across the country while elevating the voices of directly impacted individuals and families.*

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***About the ACLU of Virginia** The ACLU of Virginia promotes civil liberties and civil rights for everyone in the Commonwealth through public education, litigation, and advocacy with the goal of securing freedom and equality for all. For more information on the ACLU of Virginia go to www.acluva.org.*