



# Outsourcing NH's Prisons – A Bad Idea!

## Private Prisons Are Dangerous

Prisons are supposed to keep us safe. Staff should be safe on the inside; the community should be safe from escapes; and prisoners should be safe from abuse and unnecessary violence. Private prisons however don't work that way. Profits come first. To achieve profits, private corporations offer low wages, insufficient training and employ fewer staff. In other states that have outsourced prisons, this has compromised the safety of those in prison and in the community. There have been more escapes; more assaults between inmates; and more assaults of inmates on guards in private prisons in other states.

## Private Prisons Don't Save Money

For-profit prison companies need to stay full to maximize profits. Security, salary and program costs are kept down to make money. Private prisons are paid per prisoner per day, which is an incentive to keep more people in prison for more time. Arizona found private medium security prisons cost \$53.02 per day, compared to \$48.42 in public prisons, a loss of more than \$1,600 per prisoner per year. Private corporations require long contracts (20 years) and a set number of beds with an agreement to keep at least 90% full. Private prisons pay multi-million dollar executive salaries and pay profits to out-of-state shareholders. That money doesn't stay in New Hampshire, it leaves.

## Private Prisons Aim for Profit

Private prisons make money by locking people up. Unlike the state, they have no incentive to offer remedial programs or education to reduce recidivism. With reduced and poorly trained staff, there are higher incidences of contraband, substance abuse and violence. This is not consistent with the mission of the NH Department of Corrections to “provide a safe, secure, and humane correctional system through effective supervision and appropriate treatment of offenders, and a continuum of services that promote successful re-entry into society for the safety of our citizens and in support of crime victims.” Those who support prison privatization are often those who also use influence over lawmakers to stiffen laws and penalties which result in higher prison populations.

**For more information visit [www.NHPrisonWatch.org](http://www.NHPrisonWatch.org).**

**Private Prisons are WRONG.**

**Some things don't belong in the marketplace –  
FREEDOM is one of them!**

