

CALL TO ACTION

## CHANGE THE LAW, END THE STIGMA

## What is HIV Criminalization?

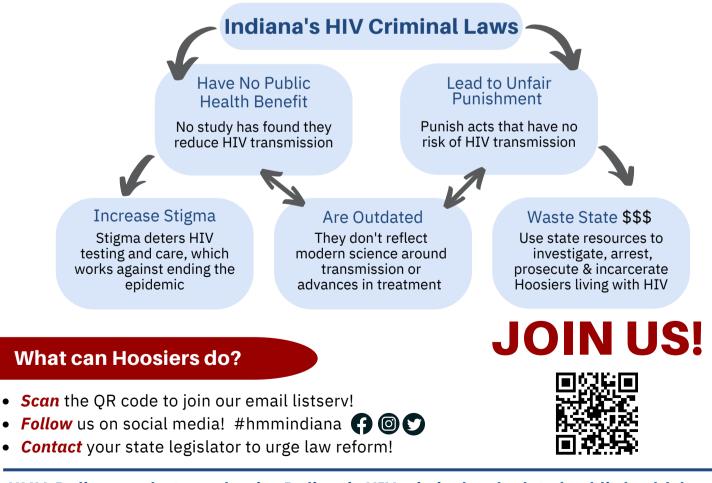
It is the inappropriate arrest of people living with HIV under laws that single them out for felony punishment based on their disease status.

About **1 Hoosier** faces charges every five weeks based on their **HIV status,** nearly all for acts that **cannot** transmit HIV such as spitting or sex using effective prevention.



Why is HIV criminal law reform needed?

- During the early years of the HIV epidemic many states, including Indiana, enacted HIV criminal exposure laws as part of efforts to try to contain a poorly understood epidemic.
- These laws were passed at a time of limited medical understanding of HIV; there were no effective treatments and HIV stigma was high.
- After more than 40 years of HIV research and significant biomedical advances to treat and prevent HIV, Indiana laws are now outdated. **Times have changed!** Today, we know that ...



HMM-Indiana seeks to modernize Indiana's HIV criminal and related public health laws. Learn more here: <u>http://hivmodernizationmovement.org</u>