

CALL TO ACTION

CHANGE THE LAW, END THE STIGMA

What is HIV Criminalization?

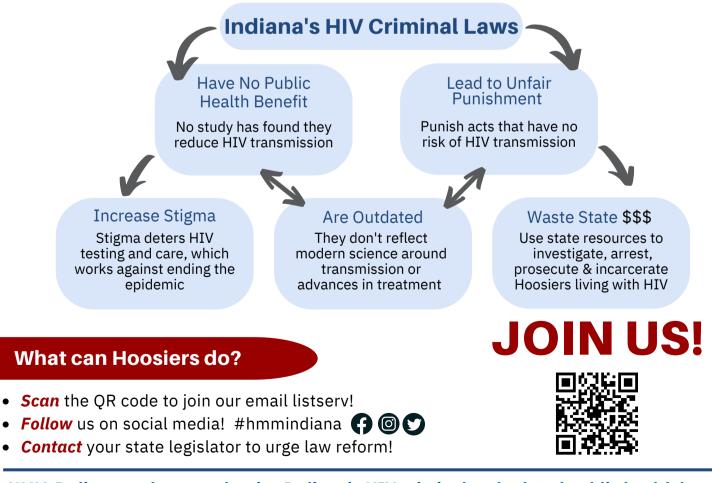
It is the inappropriate arrest of people living with HIV under laws that single them out for felony punishment based on their disease status.

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more than 40 years of HIV research and significant biomedical advances to treat and prevent HIV, Indiana laws are now outdated.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>