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Landry LTE
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Nola.com's recent article on Gov. Jeff Landry's upcoming Louisiana legislative session poses significant concerns for the Promise of Justice Initiative, which believes Landry's tougher crime legislation and proposed increases in death penalty techniques are not the answer to safer communities and healing the minds of incarcerated individuals. The proposals fail to address current conditions of Louisiana's prison system and specifics on how people of color are disproportionately affected by the death penalty and extended sentences.

The already harsh reality of prisons, implementation of excessive sentences and more death penalties in Louisiana undermines the humanity of people with convictions. It also ignores the reality that people who harm others most likely were harmed themselves. For example, the Louisiana Capital Appeals Project said [74% of people](#) on Louisiana's death row are people of color, and the majority experienced traumatic events in their childhoods. In addition, the Louisiana State Penitentiary, a former plantation ground, forces black inmates to do agricultural labor by threatening them with serious harm.

We encourage you to utilize your news platform to report existing criminal justice issues and implications of Landry's proposed legislation on those currently on death row.

We believe healing is the only way to break the cycle of crime in Louisiana, not more death and pain. Educate Louisiana on how legislators' votes will condemn prisoners. For more information, please visit our website at www.promiseofjustice.org to donate and help bridge the gap between prisoners and the community.

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