

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Authors:** Dehn and others

**Subject:** Studies: Sentencing Disparities & Access to Reentry Services

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### Overview

This bill requires the following two studies be submitted to the Legislature by December 31, 2014:

1) **Sentencing Disparity Study** conducted by the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission. This study shall include a report on the critical variables and related indicators of racial disparities in sentencing. County attorney and public defender offices must submit sentencing information (to the MGSC), including their office policies on, and factors considered in, making sentencing recommendations.

2) **Study on Minority Offender Access to Reentry Services** conducted by the Commissioner of Corrections. The study shall review the efficacy and access of reentry services, the expungement process, and culturally competent treatment programs for minority offenders, and include recommendations for changes aimed at reducing recidivism. The DOC may consult with the Office of the Legislative Auditor or contract with an independent consultant to perform the study.