

# Idaho Department of Correction

*Brief Sheet — January 2010*  
*Controlled Growth*

*Idaho's Premier Black Hat Agency*  
*"Protecting Idaho through Safety, Accountability,  
Partnerships and Opportunities for offender change."*



## System Under Construction

To reduce the growth in corrections budget needs into the future the Department proposes creating alternatives to incarceration options within the existing system.

The goal is to create effective programming that is cost effective and enhances public safety.

### Status Quo: The long and short of it

Retained Jurisdiction  
(Rider)  
120 days  
Up to 180 days

Term Sentence  
780 days

Currently, judges can sentence offenders to retained jurisdiction for up to 180 days while they receive treatment in the 'Rider' program. The treatment option works to divert offenders from prison 84% of the time.

The next option is a term sentence with an average 2.7 year stay.

## The Future: A Trio of Options

The Governor and lawmakers funded a 90-day diversion option. The Correctional Alternative Placement Program (CAPP) opens in June 2010. The Department proposes a **Therapeutic Community Rider as a third alternative** to a long prison sentence.

Adding the Therapeutic Community Rider (TC Rider) option would allow the court to recommend from a trio

of programs to treat offenders assessed needs. The concept combines one of the most successful treatment venues with a reduced time in prison.

A simple expansion of Idaho Code 19-2601, expanding retained jurisdiction from 180 to 365 days, is the only legislative change needed.

Trio of Options

*Alternative 1  
Coming May 2010*

Correctional Alternative  
Placement Program  
90 days\*

*Alternative 2  
In Place*

Retained Jurisdiction  
(Rider)  
120 days\*

*Alternative 3  
PROPOSED*

Therapeutic Community  
Rider (TC Rider)  
270 days\*

*\*The days are based on estimated stay in the program and do not include jail, transport and assessment time.*

## The Impact

If Idaho continues with the status quo, the inmate population will grow to 9,272 by 2015. Early calculations indicate the trio of options could reduce growth by an average of about 400 inmates per year.

At \$57.44 per day this alternative offers about **\$8 million in costs avoided** per year by the end of the third year. This doesn't factor in capital costs associated with building new beds.

The cost avoidance doesn't calculate increased costs associated with supervision needed for the increased probationers resulting from the alternative to prison.

Idaho Incarcerated Offender Population	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Forecast Population	7880	8242	8608	8940	9272
Forecast with TC Rider Option	7814	7951	8209	8482	8806
<b>Difference</b>	<b>-66</b>	<b>-291</b>	<b>-399</b>	<b>-458</b>	<b>-466</b>

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## The FAQs on a Trio of Options

Prosecutors, public defenders and judges reviewing the proposal have some common concerns. Below are the answers to some frequently asked questions regarding the proposed legislative change.

**Q: Will the traditional 120-to-180 day Retained Jurisdiction Program change?**

A: The Department will continue to offer the current Retained Jurisdiction Program (rider) at the current program locations in Cottonwood and South Boise. The initial planning would also add the option to CAPP.

Males with significant health care issues would continue to complete their rider at the Idaho State Correctional Institution (ISCI).

**Q: Must those receiving the sentence serve the entire 365 days?**

A: No. The 365-day window allows for transport to and from court. Even the longest treatment option (270-day TC Rider) usually won't take the full 365 days.

If treatment is completed in 90 days, the offender will return to the court as soon as the transportation and court hearing can be scheduled.

**Q: How do we determine which of the trio of options is best?**

The treatment pathway will be based on assessed needs and department resources.

Presentence investigators will use a matrix for the initial screening to provide judges a recommendation on which treatment is recommended based on assessment protocols.

The final determination will be made at RDU based on comprehensive assessments of risk, need and health care (medical and mental health).

**Q: How will courts know if the program is changed?**

A: If the RDU recommendations require changes the court will be notified immediately.

**Q: What would be some of the exclusions for placement into the CAPP program?**

A: If the offender has significant healthcare issues, they would remain at ISCI and complete the traditional rider. Educational and employability deficiencies may indicate a traditional rider is required.

**Q: Can sex offenders receive the TC rider?**

A: No. Sex offenders are ineligible for the TC environment.

**Q: How will the court be notified?**

A: The Department will continue to use the APSI format to alert the court to potential success and failure of offenders under their jurisdiction.

**Q: Why now?**

A: The added programming space provided by CAPP makes this a natural evolution to create a more effective treatment option that reduces the inmate population into the future.

The budget crisis demands we continue to innovate to reduce the growth of the inmate population.