Colorado's Statehouse members (and surprisingly both parties) are finally in agreement that Colorado has been on a 30 year binge of overincarceration that it, and its citizens, no longer can afford or justify.

I know that during my long, long 3½ years of imprisonment, I have witnessed the most soul and hope destroying, and viciously harmful (State of Colorado) law ever so abominably conceived; Mandatory Parole.

A senseless and so costly mandatory parole that constantly and consistently seemed to only increase recidivism, and costs, acting as a millstone weighing parolees down, interfering with every mundane aspect of any attempt to get on with their lives. An incorrect analogy would be that mandatory parole has acted as a choke chain dragging parolees back into the ravenous maw of the bloated and diseased evil known as the C.D.O.C. (Colorado Department of Corrections).

Over the years how many times have I heard the all too common and overused lament, "Finished my C.D.O.C. sentence and now I have to serve my mandatory parole...?!?"

In fact Colorado's mandatory parole did exactly that, make far too many serve, to all intents and purposes, and in effect, a second sentence.

This state Supreme Court ruling actually finding mandatory parole to be part of a sentence has created more hassle and misery than its now charged, overzealous, failed drug laws.

It is indeed ironic that mandatory parole is referred to as "the tail" because that is literally how it acted for...
too often AS the tail wagging the dog with parolees serving their mandatory parole incarcerated to the tune of untold tens of millions in cost to the Colorado taxpayer. Please, please Senators Carroll, John, Hodge and Thealer, seek and find sensible House sponsorship and impress Governor Hickenlooper to sign into law Senate Bill 11-257 and end this insane evil practice. Please give these thousands of parolees and the many, many to come a fair and understandable sentence so that they can pay their debts to society and work to become the rehabilitated contributing members to society, as well, that the original parole laws were written to help create. Please help!

Clair T. Beazer 04-15-12