A New Hope in Washington State

By Sydney Anderson

A nationwide and bipartisan push towards criminal justice reform, generally focused on assisting past offenders in reintegrating, has been gaining ground in recent years. Between 2017 and 2019, 20 states expanded or added laws to make it easier for people to move on from their criminal records, usually misdemeanors.

In Washington state, a law called The New Hope Act has been quietly making its way through congress. The bipartisan sponsored New Hope Act will reduce requirements for obtaining a criminal conviction vacation for those convicted of both misdemeanors and felonies. The bill is highly necessary in a country where the unemployment rate of those formerly incarcerated is almost seven times the national average, and in a state where between 8 and 10 percent of those exiting prison are released directly into homelessness. Instead of the common refrain in criminal justice reform efforts imploring companies to “ban the box,” this law vacates the convictions of people who would have had to check the box.

The brainchild of Representative Drew Hansen (D) and Seattle Police Officer and Representative Morgan Irwin (R), the bill was originally proposed in the 2017-18 legislature, but faced misconceptions and was proposed too late in the session to go anywhere. It was put back on the table for the 2019-2020 legislature as House Bill 1041.

HB 1041 is being hailed as one way to reduce the far-reaching impacts of racist policies and practices that have long oppressed communities of color, and especially work to undo the restrictive and violent impacts of the war on drugs and three strikes laws. Laws such as these are partially to blame for the disproportionately high rates at which African Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans are incarcerated in comparison to their white counterparts.

In Washington, around 37,000 people are incarcerated on any given day, and another 88,000 are on probation, meaning around 125,000 are directly involved with and restricted by the criminal justice system every single day. This doesn’t even account for those no longer on probation who still deal with the daily impacts of having a criminal record. While Black people make up 4 percent of Washington’s total population, they are vastly overrepresented in the prison and jail population – at 18 percent of the prison population. Likewise, whites are underrepresented, and make up 73 percent of the total population, and only 60 percent of the incarcerated population.

The “brief description” of House Bill 1041 says that the bill is “promoting successful reentry by modifying the process or obtaining certificates of discharge and vacating conviction records.” The bill essentially has two parts – it eases the requirements for obtaining a certificate of discharge for those who have completed sentencing conditions for felony convictions, and subsequently allows these folks to apply to have their felony conviction vacated, which means the
Weighs Options Amid ‘Brain Drain’

New Hope Act
- Streamlines the process for getting a Certificate of Discharge, which restores all civil rights.
- Aligns the rules of misdemeanors and felonies.
- Makes offenses like robbery and assault easier for eligibility.
- Expedites the vacation process and opens up an increased number of felonies to be vacated.

Washington New Hope Act

Rhode Island is worried about its size, and for good reason. Apart from the USA, the country had the slowest growth than Rhode Island. However, the state government has seen a trend of fast population growth in the past decade. This might lead to the so-called "brain drain" that can happen to other states after they graduate.

Travis Escobar, a Rhode Island native, said, "We keep hearing about the new Way RI and was recently appointed to the council's number one, decreasing the wait period. Bills like this one often require massive debt, a criminal vacation was far out of sight. Simmons got a parole and a renewed chance to live. Simmons left prison with $7,600 in fines ($1,000 more than she went to jail with as a result of interest and fees). The current waiting period is 13 years. Simmons left prison and won't be able to apply for this law for a year. Simmons has not responded to multiple voicemails about branding. "Rhode Island is just losing half our congressional representation, Rhode Island's ability to have a notary public is to be decided by the state's prosperity at stake. For Simmons, that's going to turn into lost opportunities. Simmons is a member of the tour about the potential conviction vacation. Simmons said. When the Providence School Board, helped to spread awareness, the process of getting a conviction vacation is discretionary and can depend on what the judge believes. Simmons got a parole and a renewed chance to live.

By Colin Kent-Daggett

By Hurry August — Originally published in the College Hill Independent on 2/28/2019

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U. Proudly Flies Flag—But Height Varies
By Jesse Barber — Originally published in the College Hill Independent on 12/7/2018

HOPE Announces Housing Assistance Collaborative
By Nathaniel彭

This year, Housing Opportunity Partners for People Everywhere (HOPE) teamed up with local case managers and public-interest attorneys to begin an exciting new initiative, the Housing Assistance Collaborative (HAC). In its fifteenth year history, HOPE, Brown’s student-led housing organization, has paired direct service for people experiencing homelessness for the Providence metro area with systems-change advocacy work. The organization’s leadership is remarkably excited about the potential of HAC in helping to lower the barriers for marginally-housed individuals to access affordable housing.

Through the Collaborative, HOPE students staff 10 clinics at sites throughout Rhode Island, working through Providence, Pawtucket, and Providence.

Many would argue that the hallmark of a society is the way it addresses its collective memory, and it becomes a hollow gesture to mourn a lost person if the community is unwilling to mourn with the family, Mark Stoddard, an Urban America and founder of the Rainbow Round My Shoulder (RRMS) Conference, explained.

The conference closed with a talk and documentary screening by Andreas Dalugado, a filmmaker from Denmark. After hearing several disturbing stories about the problems with trying to “Copenhagenize” the world — or indeed any problems with exporting any design idea to different contexts — without considerations for the local particulars of those contexts — parts of Dalugado’s talk on how to emulate Copenhagen’s urban design left out of sight in a busy conference room.

Despite the off-key closing note, the conference was well-attended and well-coordinated, and not even that could be too big of a problem by Chicago standards.

Jones ‘19 Attends Chicago Conference
By Emily Jones

Earlier this month, the Northern Western University Center for Human Rights hosts a conference to discuss the intersection of human rights and architecture. It was involved in the production of a white paper for the city, and the Chicago conference is run entirely by Northwestern students.

Chicago Conference 2019 brought in over 30 undergraduates and 18 faculty and other professionals from three Brown students from Brown.

The conference will be held at 8:00 a.m. on May 21 at 7:00 a.m. in the morning. Mark Stoddard, an Urban America and founder of the Rainbow Round My Shoulder (RRMS) Conference, explained.

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Bamuwanye ‘19 Explores Dance, Justice in “Rainbow Round My Shoulder”
By Ruth Bamuwanye

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In August, the belted Pawtucket Red Sox announced that they will move out of McCoy Stadium by 2024, a move that will leave the city of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, to retain one of its signature franchises and the loss of the team was seen as a betrayal in the community. In the wake of the PawSox departure, there are lingering disagreements over the viability of sports and commercial development in the area.

The debate that played out in Pawtucket illustrates the challenges of redeveloping a surrounding that has become increasingly urbanized, while respecting the needs and demands of the community.

**Roady Cont.**

Down Memorial Page, a non-profit organization that memorializes law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty, had been 134 officers who have died in the line of duty in 2011, a smaller proportion of whom died in a non-law enforcement capacity. According to a report that 876 civilians have been through extensive training and must pass a background check before they can become a police officer. On a warm summer night, a Black man was killed by police in a shopping mall in Providence, Rhode Island. He was shot and killed by police at a shopping mall in Providence, Rhode Island.

Veteran; he was not honored publically. To commemorate him we would need to acknowledge the state violence, the poverty, the color of our skin, despite his veteran status. The community is grieving Emantic Bradfurd Jr., the flag was just directed to half staff for 30 days for the death of President George W. Bush.

Even among civilian tragedies, half-staff is reserved for special cases. Natural disasters— in the past several years— have not warrant half-staff directives. Yet, if a first responder dies in the rescue, localities may lower their flags in commemoration of them. What is the distinction between mass deaths during natural disasters and other tragedies like mass killings? The US flag represents a republic,

When the Pawtucket Red Sox announced their departure, the infrastructure and the stadium construction as an engine of urban economic development. Proponents point to considerable jobs in the stadium, and consumer spending on tickets, refreshments, and merchandise as positive developments for local economies and residents. However, most economic analyses find that the new stadium rarely creates enough economic activity to justify the sizable public subsidies and public empowerment to take on $38 million in debt for the stadium, while allowing the owners’ demands while allowing the public to pay for the stadium.

The PawSox were ultimately won over by a coordinated effort on the part of the city, the state, the town, and the federal government. The stadium deal was the product of a long-term vision to attract additional investment to the struggling part of the city, hoping that the increased activity would spur thus businesses, restaurants, and other businesses of economic opportunity to the area. The debate that played out in Pawtucket suggests the need to reconsider the viability of sports and commercial development in the area.

**Pawtucket Mourns Loss of Baseball Team**

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The debate that played out in Pawtucket illustrates the challenges of redeveloping a surrounding that has become increasingly urbanized, while respecting the needs and demands of the community. The PawSox were a central part of Pawtucket’s identity, and the loss of the team was seen as a betrayal in the community. In the wake of the PawSox departure, there are lingering disagreements over the viability of sports and commercial development in the area.
“See You on the Green” By Colin Kent-Daggett

Clockwise, starting top left: “She Never Came” by BETZ; “Still Here” by Gaia; “Misty Blue” by Andrew Hem, “Party Shark” by Sam White.
For more information see BUS TOUR, PG. 3. Photos by Colin Kent-Daggett.

ACROSS
1. Government org. founded in 1947
2. Activate, as a bomb
3. Better than gold
4. Food available on Fines Alley
5. Orgs. for 15-Across
6. Scooter brand (without vowels)
7. Tully
8. Hypothetical question
9. Latin: genuinely
10. Hog sound
11. 41-Across
16. Fort part
20. Mononymous
21. Spanish footballer
22. Manner of running
23. Tortilla ingredient
24. Cent: USA ___ ___
25. Choice between access and gossip
26. Supplemental part
27. UDI
28. Thirty-one, in Super Bowl lingo
30. Trendy Italian sporting goods brand
31. Aliot
32. They’re needed for small electronics
33. Pirate noises
34. Detective’s assignment
35. Trendy YouTube category
36. Small ornamental case
37. A member of the Nilotic people of Sudan
38. 3 PH = 69 ___ Oil unit
42. Texas airport code
48. French luxury fashion house

DOWN
1. What a feather goes in
2. Common diet omission
3. Sound of amazement
5. Tear down to the studs
6. Known in practice as RDS (Rutherford backscattering spectroscopy)
7. Non-professionals
8. First cousin’s mother
9. Hints
10. Spring Weekend ’19 artist
11. Spring Weekend ’19 artist
12. “... die” (Sunderland documentary series)
13. Lion’s do
14. Spring Weekend ’19 artist
15. Home of the Beavers and Sooners
16. Yard enclosure
17. Pimples
18. Spring Weekend ’19 artist
19. Peak
20. Television schedule unit
21. Spring Weekend ’19 artist
22. Spring Weekend ’19 last name
23. Indian flatbread
24. 11-Down
25. What precedes the highlighted class
26. Like the cat that’s got the cream, say
27. Send a cheap lager via the web
28. Commonly-misspelled possessive
29. Andrews of Dancing with the Stars
30. Exceptionally creditworthy bonds
31. Hip hop magazine