

Deputy Premier John Rau MP

Attorney-General

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New sentencing laws putting the community first

The safety of the community will be front and centre when judges sentence offenders, under new laws passed by State Parliament today.

The reforms to South Australia's sentencing laws aim to better protect the community while giving greater flexibility to the courts in sentencing to support the rehabilitation of offenders.

Under the new laws, courts will be able to impose two additional types of sentence: community-based orders and intensive correction orders

Background

Under the laws, protecting the safety of the community will be the main consideration in sentencing.

Intensive correction orders offer a further level of protection, while better supporting the rehabilitation of those offenders for whom a sentence of imprisonment is not considered appropriate.

Quotes attributable to Attorney-General John Rau

This legislation is all about public safety. The protection of the community will be the number one consideration. All other sentencing considerations will be secondary.

Sentencing options will help deliver better results for the community while helping support those offenders for whom rehabilitation is a very real prospect.

Through community-based orders or intensive correction orders, people can maintain the elements that can aid their rehabilitation – such as maintaining employment and retaining links to their family – while ensuring strict enough conditions to protect the community. But only if it is safe for the community to do so.