



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jesse Hamilton

Time to #RaiseTheAge

JESSE HAMILTON December 29, 2016

| ISSUE: **CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, JUVENILE CRIMINAL JUSTICE, JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM**



- New York is one of only two states in the United States that treats 16 and 17 yr olds the same as adults in the criminal justice system.
- 45,000 teenagers are put into adult prisons every year in New York.
- Taxpayers in New York State are paying nearly \$120 million a year to jail 16- and 17-year-olds.

- Imprisoning youth can have severe detrimental effects on their long-term economic productivity.
- The vast majority of youth arrests are for minor crimes (74 percent are misdemeanors) including not paying fare for a subway or bus.
- The National Prison Rape Elimination Commission reports youth in adult prisons face the highest risk of sexual assault.
- Studies show that youth in adult prisons are twice as likely to report being beaten by staff, and 50% more likely to be attacked with a weapon.
- Youth are 36 times more likely to commit suicide in an adult facility than in a juvenile facility.