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**\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\***

***Statement in Response to Reporting on Governor Hochul's Proposed Changes to Bail Reform***

(NEW YORK, NY) - Marie Ndiaye, Supervising Attorney of the Decarceration Project at The Legal Aid Society, issued the following statement in response to [reporting](#) on Governor Hochul's proposed changes to bail reform:

"Bail reform has been widely successful, allowing our clients to stay in their communities with their families with no measurable impact on public safety.

The Legislature must reject outright any bail rollback proposal, including a 'dangerousness' provision, from Governor Hochul that will only increase jail populations, disproportionately impacting Black and brown New Yorkers. Changes to the law that focus on the results of historically racist policing will undoubtedly produce racist outcomes.

The data on bail reform speaks for itself: the overwhelmingly majority of New Yorkers on pretrial release do not commit new crimes and return for future court appearances.

The Legal Aid Society stands in solidarity with Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie and other lawmakers who continue to resist fear-mongering calls from the media and certain politicians to undo these historic reforms that our clients long deserved."

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*The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. [www.legalaidnyc.org](http://www.legalaidnyc.org)*