

Indigent defense system must change

Poor people in Michigan accused of a crime don't always get adequate and competent legal representation. Gov. Rick Snyder recognizes that undermines our criminal justice system and has taken a critical first step to fixing the indigent defense system by appointing a study commission.

The 14-member Indigent Defense Advisory Commission will recommend changes to Mr. Snyder by July 15. Ten members representing the judiciary, prosecuting and criminal attorneys, the state bar, local government and the general public are joined by a bipartisan group of four lawmakers.

The Legislature ought to have the political courage to move forward sensible reforms - long overdue -- from this panel.

Grand Rapids Press

Don't let loss of charitable-giving tax credits deter you from giving

It isn't the end to charitable giving in Michigan, but some nonprofits in the state are wondering what effect they'll feel after tax credits for donations expire at the end of this year.

... Michiganders always have been a giving bunch. We would not expect that to change when the income tax credits are no longer available in 2012.

But, hey! As the nonprofits are saying, why not make a donation now, and take advantage of the credits before they expire?

The Saginaw News

It's time to deal with poverty

The number of people in extremely poor neighborhoods, where at least 40 percent of residents live below the federal poverty line, grew by a third over the last decade, and Detroit and other Midwest metro areas - such as Toledo and Youngstown - showed some of the biggest increases.

... Living in high-poverty neighborhoods multiplies all the problems linked to low-income households and makes poverty far more intractable People in high-

Advertisement



poverty areas are less likely to attend good public schools and live in safe neighborhoods near job centers. For too many children growing up in such neighborhoods, going to prison is more likely than going to college

To alleviate concentrated poverty, metropolitan areas must create more affordable housing in mixed-income neighborhoods, integrating poor people into middle-class communities. Improving public transit so that people can get to jobs and creating regional policies for land use, zoning and economic development would also help. Politicians and policymakers must ensure, through tax and fiscal policies, that any economic recovery is broadly shared.

Detroit Free Press

AdChoices



Ads by Pulse 360

Banks Forced to Forgive Credit Card Debt

Find Out How Much of Your Debt Can Be Settled!

www.LowerMyBills.com/Debt

Mom is Hated by Dermatologists

Clever Mom Reveals Trick to a Wrinkle Free Face - Shocking Results!

ConsumerProductsDigest.org

Mortgage Rates Hit 3.01% APR

White House Cuts Up to \$1000 Off Monthly Mortgage.

See If You Qualify!

www.MortgageRatesExperts.com

Advertisement



Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™