



# Governor Ned Lamont

## Fact Sheet: 2026 Legislative Proposal

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### SENATE BILL 89

#### *AN ACT UPDATING PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION STANDARDS*

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### The Current Situation

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a federal civil rights law enacted in 2003 to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement settings, including prisons, jails, juvenile facilities, and community confinement programs. PREA establishes national standards focused on prevention, accountability, survivor safety, and access to support for incarcerated survivors. While PREA applies nationwide, it is not self-executing and relies heavily on state-level adoption, enforcement, and oversight to be effective.

Facilities with strong PREA compliance experience reduced sexual violence, improved staff safety, and better facility culture and morale.

### Governor Lamont's Solution

Adopt PREA standards, to clearly define reporting obligations, require independent investigations, specify staff training requirements, and set consequences for non-compliance. Adoption will enable in-state oversight, audits, and judicial review, reducing reliance on internal corrections processes alone.

Adopting PREA will guarantee confidential reporting options, timely access to medical care, forensic interviews and counseling, protection from retaliation, and access to victim advocacy services.



Incarcerated people are wholly dependent on the state for their safety. Courts have consistently recognized that sexual abuse in custody violates constitutional protection against cruel and unusual punishment. Adopting PREA affirms our duty to protect people in our care, including women, LGBTQ+ people, youth, and people with disabilities who face heightened risk.