

Summary of **Preliminary** Bill Drafts and Concepts for Consideration

Below is a summary table of bill drafts being considered by the 2025-2026 Criminal Justice Oversight Council for the 2027 Legislative Session.

Draft #	Concept	Source	Status	Drafter	Committee Action
CJOC PD1	Repeal sunset date on the Crime Victims Compensation Account	Discussed during the Victim Service Provider panel at Sept 11, 2025 meeting	Approved as a council bill	Laura Sherley	Action taken on May 8, 2026; Needs sponsor designation
CJOC PD2.2	Revise the definition of sick leave to include mental preventative medical or mental health care	Discussed during the Vicarious Trauma in the Criminal Justice System presentation at Nov 18, 2025 meeting	Preliminary draft	Laura Sherley	No action taken
CJOC PD3.2	Revise laws related to partner or family member assault	Discussed during the Federal vs. State Definition of Bodily Injury discussion at Mar 11, 2026 meeting	Preliminary draft	Abbie Cziok	Requested March 11, 2026 and reviewed May 8, 2026. Will revisit July 15, 2026.
CJOC PD4	Define Child Advocacy Centers	Discussed during the Victim Service Provider panels at Sept 11, 2025 and May 8, 2026 meetings	Preliminary draft	Laura Sherley	Requested May 8, 2026. Will review and receive public comment July 15, 2026
CJOC PD5	Generally revise laws related to the misdemeanor expungement clarification act	Discussed during the HJ45 discussions at the Jan 15, 2026 and May 8, 2026 meetings	Preliminary draft	Laura Sherley	Requested May 8, 2026. Will review and receive public comment July 15, 2026
CJOC PD6	Establish criminal justice data warehouse priorities	Requested by chair for council discussion	Preliminary draft	Laura Sherley	Requested May 8, 2026. will review and receive public comment July 15, 2026

Below is a list of concepts for legislation that arose from stakeholder feedback, presenter input, or council discussion throughout the 2025-2026 study cycle. This list is intended as a resource for the council to review potential recommendations they've heard or discussed during the 2025-2026 cycle :

- Remove financial caps in the Crime Victims Compensation Act¹ – *Discussed during the Victim Service Provider Panel at the Sep 11, 2025 meeting*
- Remove time limits in the Crime Victims Compensation Act – *Discussed during the Victim Service Provider Panel at the Sep 11, 2025 meeting*
- Clarify time served/street time credit in statute – *Discussed during the Credit for Time Served in Montana Panel at the Nov 18, 2025 meeting*

¹ Title 53, ch. 9, pt. 1, MCA 2025