

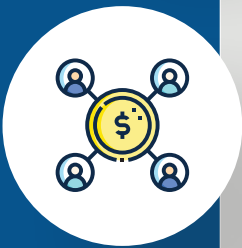
Supporting Local Prosecutors Act

The Problem



Rogue prosecutors are failing to protect the public from violent crime.

- × Philadelphia saw a **15% increase in homicides** when they reduced felony drug and weapons charges.
- × **Homicides increased by 27%** in Baltimore and Chicago because of reduced charges.



Underfunded prosecutors are unable to fully execute their responsibilities.

- × Over 80 percent of assistant district attorneys in Wisconsin report their **workload to be “unreasonably high.”**
- × Prosecutors in Harris County, TX, have a **felony case load that is 10 times the accepted standard.**

The Solution: Special Prosecutors

Special Prosecutors are appointed positions within a state’s attorney general office and only have the power to prosecute serious felony crimes.

Special prosecutors can prosecute crimes when a district attorney refuses to file cases, and they can offer support to districts that lack resources.

The governor or attorney general can deploy a special prosecutor to assist when...



...a district’s homicide rate is twice that of the state’s.



...an elected district attorney requests help.

Special prosecutors would serve a temporary five-year term, and the scope of their work would be limited to:



Violent felonies involving homicide, assault, and robbery.



Felony drug manufacturing and distribution.



Vehicle hijacking and felony weapons violations.

Why it Matters: Public Safety

When ineffective or overburdened district attorney offices fail to prosecute serious crimes, it results in a lack of accountability for offenders, decreased public safety, and eroded trust in the legal system.

Bottom Line

States must prosecute serious crimes when district attorney offices can't or won't.

Offering support to overburdened district attorneys and taking over the duties of rogue DA offices assures communities that states are doing their part to help protect their families and livelihoods.