Felon Disenfranchisement in Minnesota

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Background

- Minnesota currently disenfranchises people convicted of a felony until the completion of their sentence.
  - current prison inmates
  - parolees/conditional release
  - felony probationers
  - jail inmates convicted of a felony

- Notification practices are inconsistent

Disenfranchisement is rising in Minnesota.

Only 1 in 4 disenfranchised Minnesotans are incarcerated. (2007)
The Minnesota felon voting ban now disenfranchises about 10% of African Americans and 7% of American Indians. The proposed legislation would reduce these rates to 3.5% and 2.4%, respectively.

The U.S. public supports voting rights for probationers (68%) and parolees (60%), but not prisoners (31%).

Probationers and parolees who vote in Oregon have significantly lower recidivism rates.

U.S. State Disenfranchisement Law (2009)

- No restrictions (2):
  - Maine, Vermont
- Inmates only (15 + DC):
- Inmates, Parolees (4):
  - California, Colorado, Connecticut*, New York
- Inmates, Parolees, Probationers (18):
- Inmates, Parolees, Probationers, Certain Ex-felons (11):

* Indicates recent change or complexity