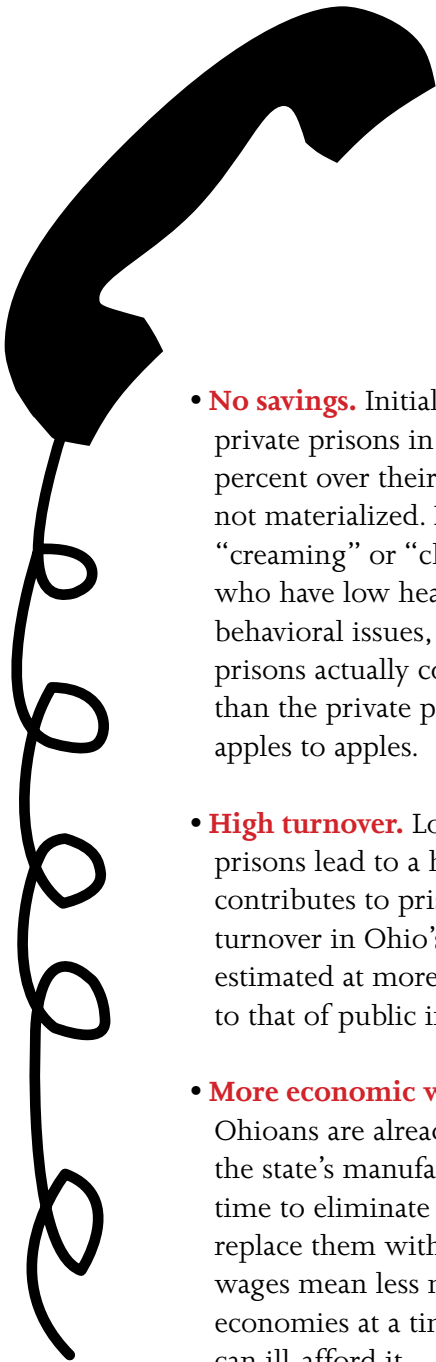
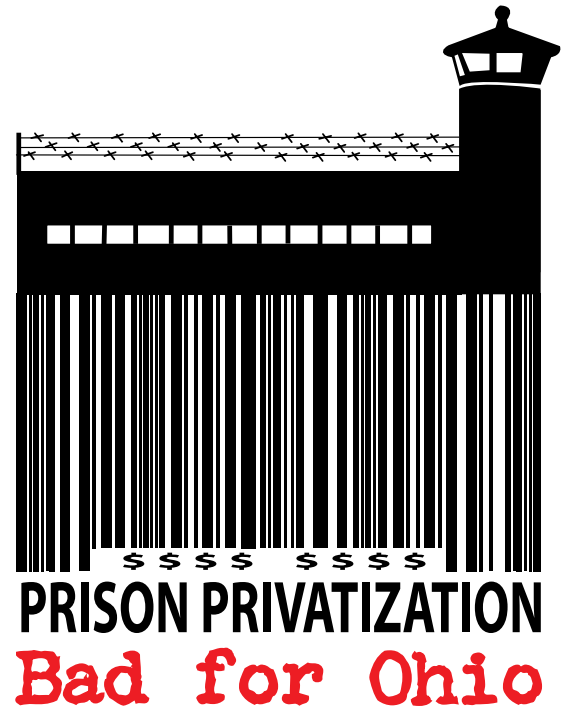


# TALKING POINTS

## On prison privatization.....



- **No savings.** Initial promises that the two private prisons in Ohio would save 12 percent over their public counterparts have not materialized. Even given the practice of “creaming” or “cherry picking” inmates who have low health care costs and few behavioral issues, many comparable state prisons actually cost less per day to operate than the private prisons when comparing apples to apples.
- **High turnover.** Low wages in the private prisons lead to a higher rate of turnover that contributes to prison instability. Employee turnover in Ohio’s private prisons has been estimated at more than 55 percent, compared to that of public institutions, at 17 percent.
- **More economic woes.** At a time when Ohioans are already hurting from the loss of the state’s manufacturing base, it’s the wrong time to eliminate good paying jobs and replace them with lower wage work. Lower wages mean less money going to Ohio’s local economies at a time when local businesses can ill-afford it.
- **Profits mean cutting corners.** For-profit private prisons are notorious for cutting corners on staffing ratios, wages and employee training. The safety and security of our communities depends on a prison system that is stable, well-run, and staffed with long-term employees who are well-trained, dedicated and have a stake in Ohio’s communities--not out-of-state corporations that cut corners to turn a profit.
- **A “Wall Street” solution to fixing budget.** Efforts like these scapegoat the middle class and unfairly saddle them with solving the problems created by the financial crisis on Wall Street.
- **Other savings ideas.** DR&C already has a plan to reduce the inmate population as a way of dealing with inmate overcrowding and staffing ratios. The plan would reduce the inmate numbers by several thousand over the next biennium. OCSEA has also proposed to combine the expensive private prison, Northcoast Correctional Treatment Facility, with the state’s Grafton Correctional Institution at a savings of \$4 million per year.

Printed in house by