

The "**You Were Wronged**" Act (YWWA) is now codified as a comprehensive restorative justice framework. It functionally shifts the industry's 2025 "success" directly into a reparative engine for those the system failed.

The "You Were Wronged" Act of 2026

Statutory Funding: \$333.81 Million (Initial Appropriation)

Title I: The Innocence Guarantee (Priority 1: Wrongful Incarceration)

- **The 24-Hour Check:** Upon the vacating of a conviction, the Department of Justice must issue a **\$50,000 "Immediate Restoration" payment** within one business day. No paperwork, no waiting for civil suits.
- **The "Price of Liberty" Clause:** Sets a federal mandate of **\$80,000 per year** served. This is non-taxable and carries a "Fast-Track" status, bypassing standard government bureaucracy.

Title II: The Duty of Care Mandate (Priority 2: Abuse While Incarcerated)

- **The Independent Oversight Bureau (IOB):** Creates a non-prison-affiliated medical and safety board. Any facility with a documented pattern of medical neglect or staff-on-inmate abuse loses 100% of its federal profitability for that fiscal year.
- **The "Trauma Settlement" Pipeline:** Establishes a streamlined claims process where victims of institutional abuse receive settlements ranging from **\$25,000 to \$250,000** based on IOB findings, rather than requiring decades of litigation.

Title III: The Anchor Program (Priority 3: After-Release Stability)

- **The "Rent-First" Voucher:** To prevent "gate-fever" (the fear of being homeless upon release), the Act provides a **12-month housing stipend** that covers 100% of local fair-market rent.
- **Debt Erasure:** Forbids the collection of "pay-to-stay" fees or administrative fines accrued during incarceration, ensuring a clean financial slate.

Title IV: The Resilience Initiative (Priority 4: Long-Term Rehabilitation)

- **The "Life-Long Care" Benefit:** Grants any formerly incarcerated individual access to a **Health Savings Account (HSA)** specifically for trauma-informed therapy and mental health services for the duration of their life.
- **Career Transformation Grants:** Full vocational and university tuition coverage, with an additional **\$1,000 monthly living stipend** for any former inmate enrolled in a certification or degree program.

Operational Impact: By rerouting the 2025 profit margins, the YWWA would theoretically fund the immediate re-entry and housing for over **130,000 individuals** or provide full wrongful-conviction settlements for roughly **4,100 people** who lost a decade of their lives.