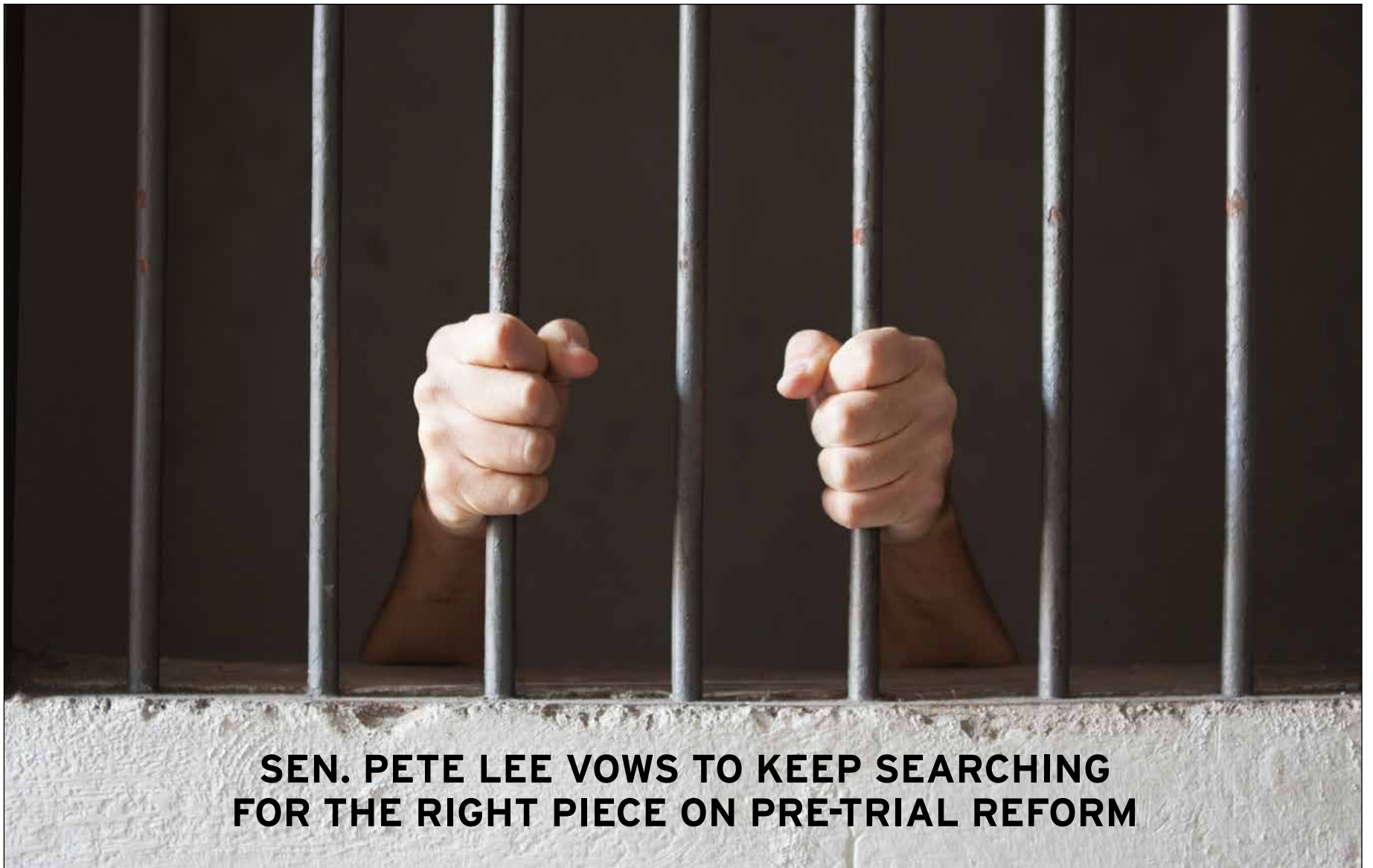


THE EQUAL JUSTICE PUZZLE



SEN. PETE LEE VOWS TO KEEP SEARCHING FOR THE RIGHT PIECE ON PRE-TRIAL REFORM

GETTY IMAGES

BY PAT POBLETE Colorado Politics

Sen. Pete Lee is putting together a puzzle. The image at its center: an end to “the level of over-incarceration in Colorado and the United States” that the Colorado Springs Democrat and former corporate attorney says he’s become “acutely conscious of.”

That awareness grew out of convincing numbers. The advocacy nonprofit Prison Policy Initiative pegged Colorado’s incarceration rate at 635 per 100,000 people, just shy of the 698 per 100,000 mark for the United States as a whole.

Compare that to the United Kingdom, where the rate sits

around 140 per 100,000, or Canada at 114 per 100,000, or France at just more than 100 per 100,000, or Italy at 96 per 100,000.

“Obviously we’re not six times more criminogenic than people in other parts of the world,” he said. “We have criminal justice policies that promote incarceration. It’s our default response to misbehavior.”

Since coming to the General Assembly as a state representative in 2010, Lee has been working to change that default response.

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YOUR MOVE

Politics makes problem-solving a Capitol board game. **Insights, Page 2**

IN MEMORY

Officials praise the late Rep. Mike McLachlan’s dedication to service. **Page 4**