

Asian Law Caucus

55 Columbus Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94111
Phone: (415) 848-7719
Fax: (415) 896-1702
angelac@asianlawcaucus.org

May 4, 2009

VIA FACSIMILE AT (202) 228-1229

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: SUPPORT Reauthorization of JJDP A

Dear Senator Specter:

On behalf of the Asian Law Caucus, I am writing to express our strong support for S. 678, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2009 (JJDP A), which was introduced on March 24, 2009. Founded in 1972, the Asian Law Caucus is the nation's oldest civil rights organization serving low-income Asian and Pacific American communities in the areas of education, juvenile justice, housing, immigration, and employment.

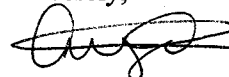
S. 678 strengthens and updates critical components of the JJDP A, which has been protecting youth across the nation for over 30 years. S. 678 makes meaningful improvements that expand several of the core protections and other areas contained in the bill. The bill responds to the pressing needs of youth identified by hundreds of state and local constituents and stakeholder organizations nationwide, who have engaged in the process of crafting this legislation.

In particular, the bill contains core protections to reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC), to improve the Jail Removal and Sight and Sound provisions, and to continue the deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO). The bill also allows States to continue to serve youth tried in adult court in juvenile facilities without jeopardizing federal funding.

Furthermore, S.678 improves the overall juvenile justice system by providing comprehensive services and supports for youth and by ameliorating conditions of confinement in juvenile facilities. It also increases States' ability to comply with the core requirements, creates incentive grants, and restores and strengthens the role of OJJDP. In addition, the bill sets more appropriate authorization funding levels for Title II and Title V. It also preserves and guards the community-connected prevention, youth development and rehabilitation emphases of the JJDP A.

In light of the above reasons, we support this bill as a significant step towards improving the JJDP A and offer ourselves as a resource as the bill moves through the legislative process. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of youth across the country.

Sincerely,



Angela Chan, Esq.
Juvenile Justice and Education Project

CC: Ian Augarten, Campaign for Youth Justice (Via e-mail at iaugarten@campaign4youthjustice.org)

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May 4, 2009

VIA FACSIMILE AT (202) 224-3479

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: SUPPORT Reauthorization of JJDP

Dear Senator Leahy:

On behalf of the Asian Law Caucus, I am writing to express our strong support for S. 678, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2009 (JJDP), which was introduced on March 24, 2009. Founded in 1972, the Asian Law Caucus is the nation's oldest civil rights organization serving low-income Asian and Pacific American communities in the areas of education, juvenile justice, housing, immigration, and employment.

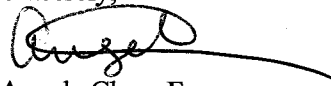
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In light of the above reasons, we support this bill as a significant step towards improving the JJDP and offer ourselves as a resource as the bill moves through the legislative process. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of youth across the country.

Sincerely,



Angela Chan, Esq.
Juvenile Justice and Education Project

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May 4, 2009

VIA FACSIMILE AT (202) 228-0400

The Honorable Richard Durbin
United States Senate
309 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: SUPPORT Reauthorization of JJDP

Dear Senator Durbin:

On behalf of the Asian Law Caucus, I am writing to express our strong support for S. 678, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2009 (JJDP), which was introduced on March 24, 2009. Founded in 1972, the Asian Law Caucus is the nation's oldest civil rights organization serving low-income Asian and Pacific American communities in the areas of education, juvenile justice, housing, immigration, and employment.

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May 4, 2009

VIA FACSIMILE AT (202) 224-9787

The Honorable Herbert H. Kohl
United States Senate
330 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: SUPPORT Reauthorization of JJDP

Dear Senator Kohl:

On behalf of the Asian Law Caucus, I am writing to express our strong support for S. 678, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2009 (JJDP), which was introduced on March 24, 2009. Founded in 1972, the Asian Law Caucus is the nation's oldest civil rights organization serving low-income Asian and Pacific American communities in the areas of education, juvenile justice, housing, immigration, and employment.

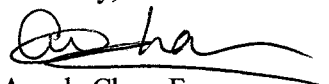
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