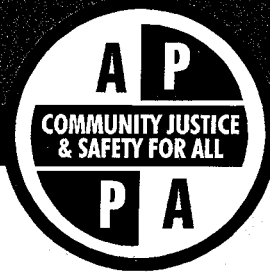


American Probation and Parole Association



June 10, 2009

APPA HEADQUARTERS

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Carl Wicklund

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

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

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
335 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Arlen Specter
United States Senate
711 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Leahy, Kohl, Sessions and Specter:

On behalf of the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA), I am writing to express our strong support for S. 678, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2009, which was introduced on March 24, 2009. The bill provides for many improvements on how juveniles are treated within the justice system such as; protections against disproportionate minority contact, keeping juveniles out of adult institutions while awaiting disposition and strengthening protections to prevent institutionalization of status offenders.

APPA is a non-profit membership association for both adult and juvenile probation/parole officers/ administrators and others who work, conduct research or are interested in the field of community corrections. The JJDA is of particular interest to APPA members who work to assist juveniles in their efforts to avoid delinquency.


VISIT APPA'S WEBSITE at www.appa-net.org

for information on memberships, institutes, trainings, publications and services.

The current bill would update and improve many of the federal JJDPAs core requirements, research and training resources and other key areas of the law. APPA is pleased to see such positive movement to reauthorize the JJDPAs, which, for more than 30 years, has provided states and localities with federal standards and supports for improving juvenile justice and delinquency prevention practices and put in place safeguards for youth, families and communities.

Along with other issues, reauthorizing JJDPAs can mean significant improvements in how juveniles are treated while in custodial situations and would help states implement data-driven approaches to ensure fairness and reduce racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system. These improvements are vital links to better futures for many juveniles in our nation and I encourage you to support S. 678.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl Wicklund". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "W".

Carl Wicklund
Executive Director