



December 4, 2018

Senator Charles Grassley
Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Feinstein and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of the American Bus Association (ABA), I write in support of S. 3649, the Formerly Incarcerated Reenter Society Transformed Safely Transitioning Every Person Act, or First Step Act of 2018, and urge the Senate to consider the bill before the end of the 115th Congress.

The ABA, with over 3800 members, represents the motorcoach, tour and travel industry. Our motorcoach operators provide more than 600 million passenger trips annually on charters, tours, scheduled service and shuttles vehicles, and our tour and travel members play a key role in the \$836.6 billion U.S. tourism industry.

The ABA is supportive of initiatives to promote opportunities for all Americans, reduce recidivism and facilitate a productive workforce for the national economy. The commercial motor vehicle industry continues to face shortages in terms of well-trained drivers and mechanics, initiatives such as this legislation could assist in increasing the pool of qualified candidates and also provide opportunities for stable, well-paying jobs for an at-risk community.

The Senate's revised First Step Act is in-line with these goals as it aims to increase fairness in prison sentencing and improve safety in American communities by helping inmates bound for release to become productive members of society. The bill would reduce federal recidivism and crime, prepare inmates for a successful return to society, enhance prison security and officer safety, and reform criminal sentencing. This legislation has bipartisan support from both Chambers of Congress and should be considered before the end of the current Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Suzanne M. Te Beau Rohde".

Suzanne M. Te Beau Rohde
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs & Policy
American Bus Association