



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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CEO and Executive Director
TOM COCHRAN

February 12, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I write to register the strong support of the nation's mayors for the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act (S. 1917), bipartisan legislation that would bring needed reforms to the criminal justice system. We urge the Committee to report it out when it considers it next week and the full Senate to act upon it quickly.

S. 1917 would address decades of serious inequities in federal sentencing for certain drug offenders, target violent criminals, and grant judges greater discretion at sentencing for lower-level drug crimes. It would clarify and reduce the enhanced mandatory minimum sentence for certain firearm offenses and apply the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 retroactively. The bill also contains provisions intended to reduce recidivism by helping federal prisoners successfully re-enter society – provisions that we believe are essential to meaningful justice reform. Finally, it would establish a national criminal justice commission, something which is long overdue.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is a bipartisan organization and we are especially pleased to be urging support of bipartisan legislation that addresses a critical problem in this country. This sorely needed legislation has broad support and is important to our cities, our residents, and our nation. We are committed to seeing such criminal justice reform legislation enacted into law as early as possible this year.

Sincerely,

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director