

December 11, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Shelby, Vice Chairman Leahy, Chairman Frelinghuysen, and Ranking Member Lowey:

Thank you for your leadership this past year in advancing the FY2019 appropriations process and for remediating FY19 sequestration to provide additional funding. The undersigned organizations urge Congress to finalize and pass FY19 appropriations for the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies appropriations bill before it adjourns in December so that these additional funds are allocated and Congress' funding decisions and direction for key public safety and criminal justice reform programs can be realized.

Our diverse coalition of stakeholder organizations, representing law enforcement, judges, state and local officials, service providers, and individuals directly impacted by the justice system, urge Congress to finalize the FY19 appropriations process now so that we are able to inform stakeholders and state and local communities about the FY19 funds available by the end of this year. Such finality on funding issues enhances both the planning and execution of key elements of the criminal justice system, thus improving public safety and the effectiveness of justice system services and outcomes.

Thank you so much for your leadership on these critical issues. We look forward to working with you as the process moves forward in the coming days.

Sincerely,

Afterschool Alliance
American Correctional Association
Association of Prosecuting Attorneys

Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies
Association of VAWA Administrators
Boys Town
Campaign for Youth Justice
Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network
Child Welfare League of America
Children's Advocacy Institute
Coalition for Juvenile Justice
College & Community Fellowship
CURE (Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants)
FedCURE.org
Health In Justice Action Lab, Northeastern University School of Law
Heartland Alliance
Innocence Project
International Community Corrections Association
International Union of Police Associations
Justice For Families
Juvenile Justice Coalition
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Legal Action Center
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Major County Sheriffs of America
MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership
NAACP Washington Bureau
National Alliance of Gang Investigators' Associations
National Association of Counties
National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
National Association of Drug Court Professionals
National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies (NAPSA)
National Association of Social Workers
National Center for Lesbian Rights
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
National Crime Prevention Council
National Criminal Justice Association
National Crittenton
National Disability Rights Network
National District Attorneys Association
National Domestic Violence Hotline
National Juvenile Justice Network
National League of Cities
National Legal Aid & Defender Association
National Narcotics Officers Associations Coalition
National Network to End Domestic Violence
National Organization for Victim Assistance
National Youth Employment Coalition

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV)
Pace Center for Girls
Pretrial Justice Institute
Safer Foundation
School Social Work Association of America
SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics
Stop Child Predators
StoptheDrugWar.org
The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
The American Probation and Parole Association
The Sentencing Project
The U.S. Conference of Mayors
Treatment Communities of America
W. Haywood Burns Institute

Cc: Chairman Jerry Moran
Ranking Member Jeanne Shaheen
Chairman John Culberson
Ranking Member Jose Serrano