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Experts available for comment today & in press call tomorrow

Law Enforcement Officials: Following Revisions, Congress Must Pass Sentencing Reform Now

Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act Necessary to Reduce Crime and Incarceration

PRESS CALL TOMORROW: Congressional Leaders & Law Enforcement Discuss Sentencing Reform Compromise

In response to today's announcement of revisions to the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act, law enforcement officials across the country urged Congress to quickly pass the bill.

"Law enforcement is counting on Congress to pass sentencing reform this year to help us keep crime rates at historic lows," **said Ronal Serpas, chairman of Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration and former Superintendent of the New Orleans Police Department.** "We have spent our entire careers focused on keeping citizens safe. From that experience, we know our current policies put people in prison who don't belong there. That ultimately gets in the way of smart, effective policing and prosecution. With these new revisions, it's time for Congress to pass the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act now."

"The compromise sentencing reform bill announced today will enhance public safety, not harm it, by allowing the government to target its enforcement efforts where they are most needed," **said Michael Mukasey, former U.S. Attorney General under George W. Bush.** "The widespread support this bill has received in the law enforcement community should allay concern. We urge Congress to pass this bill promptly."

These law enforcement leaders add their voices to widespread support for reform: Three-quarters of [voters favor eliminating](#) federal mandatory minimums. Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration – a group of more than 160 current and former top law enforcement officials – have sent [letters to congressional leadership](#) supporting the bill and met with them in person to urge them to pass sentencing reform.

They've also authored a national [op-ed](#) urging lawmakers to support the bill, as well as local pieces including in [Nevada](#), [Wisconsin](#), and [Maine](#). Group members organized a Capitol Hill [briefing](#) in partnership with Sens. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) and Mike Lee (R-Utah) to garner more Senate support for the vote.

Sen. Lee will join Attorney General Mukasey and Chairman Serpas on a media briefing call Friday at 11 a.m. ET to discuss the bill and law enforcement's perspective.

To schedule an interview for today or to participate in the media briefing tomorrow, please contact Fiona Druge at Fiona.Druge@berlinrosen.com or (646) 755-6126.

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About Law Enforcement Leaders

[Law Enforcement Leaders](#) unites more than 160 current and former police chiefs, sheriffs, federal and state prosecutors, and attorneys general from all 50 states to urge for a reduction in both crime and incarceration. We believe that the country can reduce incarceration while keeping down crime, and we support changes to our criminal justice system to achieve that goal. See a full list of members [here](#).