

Law Enforcement Leaders Thank The Senate for Passing FIRST STEP, Look Forward to Final Passage

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New York, N.Y. – The Senate passed the FIRST STEP Act, a bill with criminal justice reforms that reduces unnecessary incarceration. The legislation includes changes to both sentencing and prison conditions. It would eliminate a “three strikes” law, reduce mandatory minimum sentences for nonviolent drug offenders, and create programs to reduce the likelihood that prisoners commit crimes upon release. The bill now goes to the House of Representatives, which is expected to also pass the bill. If the bill clears Congress, President Trump is expected to sign it into law before the new year.

Ronal Serpas, Executive Director of [Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration](#), and former Superintendent of the New Orleans Police Department, issued the following statement:

“As I celebrate the Senate’s passage of the FIRST STEP Act, I’m joined by friends and colleagues in law enforcement across the nation. We are thrilled that both sides of the aisle voted for commonsense approaches to better target our justice system toward core public safety needs. Now the House of Representatives must pass the bill too. We expect them to do the right thing.

“We have advocated for federal sentencing reform since we formed Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration in 2015. Assuming Congress advances this bill and the President signs it, our work doesn’t end with FIRST STEP. We look forward to continuing our work with Congress and with state and local lawmakers. Our country deserves a criminal justice system that’s fair and keeps us safe.”

For more information:

Law Enforcement Leaders’ November 13 [letter to President Trump](#) in support of FIRST STEP

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