RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE YOUTH PROMISE ACT (H.R.1318)

Endorsed July 2014

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1992, is a coalition created to act as a collective voice for issues of common concern to its member organizations; and

WHEREAS, the member organizations of the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color's mission is "to promote legislation that will improve the economic condition of all American citizens, regardless of race, sex or creed in their efforts to secure a free and untrammeled use of the franchise guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, and to protect the civil and political rights of the citizens and residents of the United States"; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Representative Robert C. Scott has filed H.R.1318, the Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education Act ("The Youth PROMISE Act"), in the 113th Congress; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of youth are funneled down life paths that lead to arrest, conviction, incarceration and even death and one-size-fits-all zero tolerance school discipline policies are transforming schools into a major point of entry into the juvenile justice system as children are increasingly arrested on school grounds for subjectively and loosely defined behaviors; and

WHEREAS, the Youth PROMISE Act targets resources towards communities encountering increased youth gang and crime risks in order to enable those communities to begin to address their significant unmet needs for evidenced-based prevention and intervention investments; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color will review the bill in its entirety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color supports the passage of the Youth PROMISE Act (H.R. 1318); and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color will forward a copy of this resolution to members of Congress who have not co-sponsored the Resolution in Support of the Youth PROMISE Act (H.R. 1318) to seek their support; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the policy of the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

WE, the duly-elected Presidents of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly enacted by a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Directors.

President, Hispanic National Bar Association

President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

President, National Bar Association

President, National Native American Bar Association

NNABA

Date

July 15, 2014

July 15, 2014

July 15, 2014

July 15, 2014