



Resolution in Support of the Youth PROMISE Act (H.R.2721)

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1983, 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 CBAC 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, U.S. Representative Robert C. Scott has filed H.R.2721, the Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education Act (“The Youth PROMISE Act”), in the 112TH Congress; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of youth are funneled down life paths that lead to arrest, conviction, incarceration and even death; and

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, the intervention strategies in the Youth PROMISE Act include targeted funding based upon each community’s needs assessment and a subsequent strategic youth crime and gang intervention plan – from a broad array of programs proven to reduce the likelihood of a young offender’s recidivism, including evidence- based risk analysis focused assessments, as well as proven effective individual and family therapeutic interventions, community re-entry activities, witness protection, youth victim witness assistance, and other services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CBAC supports the passage of the Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education Act (H.R.2721); and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CBAC will forward a copy of this resolution to members of Congress who have not co-sponsored the Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education Act (H.R.2721) to seek their support; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CBAC authorizes the communication of the content of this resolution to members of the U.S. Senate, members of the U.S. House of Representatives, the press, and to others the CBAC deems appropriate to receive the information; and

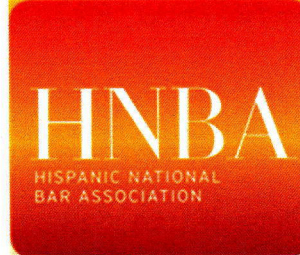
THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the legislative priority of the CBAC until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.


CERTIFICATION

We, the duly elected leadership of the Hispanic National Bar Association, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, and the National Native American Bar Association, hereby certify that this resolution was duly enacted by the CBAC at its annual meeting on the 16th of May 2012.

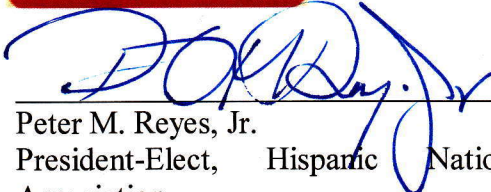


National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

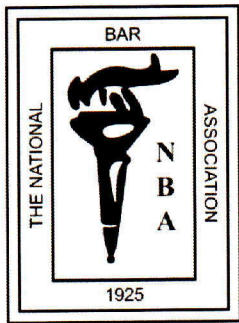


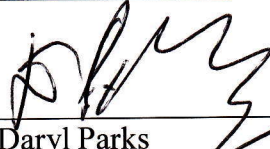


Nimesh Patel
President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

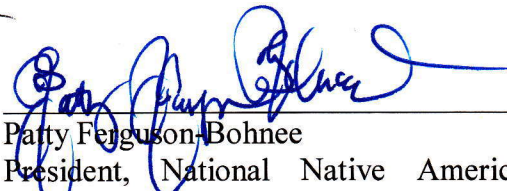


Peter M. Reyes, Jr.
President-Elect, Hispanic National Bar Association





Daryl Parks
President, National Bar Association



Patty Ferguson Bohnce
President, National Native American Bar Association