

February 19, 2018
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Dear Senator Harris:

I am concerned about irrational sentencing. The crime wave a quarter century ago served as an excuse to incarcerate a large percentage of the population, particularly minorities. Many of the ramifications are now widely understood to be counterproductive, with lives wasted in prison, people with old convictions shut out of work and punitive fee systems creating debtor's prisons complete with private companies set to profit from them. Although the past decade has seen some improvement, reform has been much slower than the rapid rise of three strikes and minimum sentencing laws and now the Attorney General and his boss seem focused on keeping reform from happening. I am pleased to see that even in these very partisan times your Judiciary committee has again managed to put forward a reform package with strong bipartisan support.

Thank you for working to pass S. 1917, the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act.

I am very proud to be a US citizen and a large part of that derives from our rule of law.

Eric Babson