

May 21, 2018

Dear Representatives:

On behalf of more than 3.2 million Americans for Prosperity activists in all 50 states, I write urging you to vote YES on the on H.R. 5682, the FIRST STEP Act. This common sense, bipartisan piece of legislation will help incarcerated individuals successfully reenter society by giving them the training they need to get a second chance.

## We urge you to vote YES on H.R. 5682, the FIRST STEP Act. Americans for Prosperity will include this vote in our congressional scorecard.

For far too long, our criminal justice system has failed to adequately prepare inmates to successfully reenter society after serving their time. This failure has led to a variety of poor outcomes, including high recidivism rates—meaning that inmates are very likely to return to prison after being released.

The FIRST STEP Act uses evidence-based risk and needs assessment tools that will be implemented in the criminal justice system to train and educate incarcerated individuals to successfully reenter our communities following their release from prison. By reducing recidivism, the FIRST STEP Act will make our streets safer, save billions in taxpayer dollars, and create opportunity for former offenders who are hungry for the opportunity to positively transform their lives.

## We urge you to vote YES on H.R. 5682, the FIRST STEP Act. Americans for Prosperity will include this vote in our congressional scorecard.

Visit our scorecard online: http://afpscorecard.org

Sincerely,

Brent Wm. Gardner Vice President of Government Affairs Americans for Prosperity

Americans for Prosperity (AFP) exists to recruit, educate, and mobilize citizens in support of the policies and goals of a free society at the local, state, and federal level, helping every American live their dream – especially the least fortunate. AFP has more than 3.2 million activists across the nation, a local infrastructure that includes 36 state chapters, and has received financial support from more than 100,000 Americans in all 50 states. For more information, visit <u>www.AmericansForProsperity.org</u>.