

CIVIL RIGHTS

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League of United Latin American Citizens
Concilio De Justicia Y Ley
Council #4631
District XV

Resolution

WHEREAS, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is dedicated to the preservation of the most basic civil right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all Latinos and minorities, including the right to be free from governmental cruelty and oppression; and,

WHEREAS, according to the *United States' National Council on Crime and Delinquency*, "The United States' incarcerates at a rate 4 to 7 times higher than other western nations such as the United Kingdom, France, Italy, and Germany and up to 32 times higher than nations with the lowest rates such as Nepal, Nigeria, and India," and,

WHEREAS, a disproportionate percentage of those individuals incarcerated in the United States are Latinos, African American, and other minorities; and,

WHEREAS, upon release from prison, parole, or probation these ex-offenders are consistently denied employment and other benefits thereby causing broken homes, neglected children, poverty, and additional burdens to taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, unlike almost all states which provide for some system of expunging records and thereby provide a meaningful chance for ex-offenders to rebuild their life, the federal system offers no such relief except in very limited, misdemeanor cases;

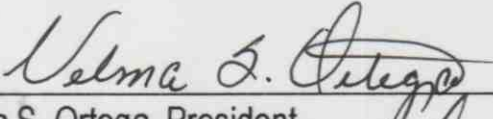
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the League of United Latin American Citizens calls for the immediate passage in Congress of the "*Second Chance Act for Ex-Offenders of 2007*" (HR 623) which allows first time, federal, non-violent ex-offenders to prove by clear and convincing evidence to their sentencing judge that they have rehabilitated themselves through community service, education, and renunciation of drug use, and that they are thereby worthy of expunction of their federal record so long as they remain crime free, drug free, industrious members of our community;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the League of United Latin American Citizens calls for the immediate passage in Congress of the "*Second Chance Act*" (S 1060) which calls for the funding of local programs which are dedicated to the support of ex-offenders who are struggling to re-enter society as law abiding, productive citizens, whether they were incarcerated by either the state or federal government.

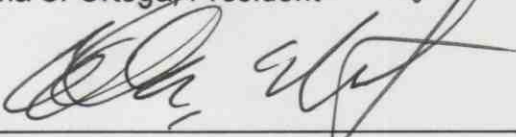
SUBMITTED BY LULAC's CONCILIO de JUSTICIA y LEY, Council #4631, District XV, San Antonio, Texas; and,

SUBMITTED BY LULAC's CONCILIO ZAPATISTA, Council #4383, District XV, San Antonio, Texas.

Approved this 10th day of July, 2007
Concilio de Justicia y Ley #4631



Velma S. Ortega, President



Collis White, General Counsel

Approved this 10th day of July, 2007
Concilio Zapatista #4383



Cindy Gustamante, President

Approved this ____ day of July, 2007
League of United Latin American Citizens

Rosa Rosales,
National President