



February 8, 2008

Dear Members of Congress:

On behalf of the National PTA, comprising of millions of parents, teachers, students, and other child advocates, I urge you to cosponsor the Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support and Education Act (Youth PROMISE Act), H.R. 3846. Through meaningful prevention and intervention strategies, we can reduce gang activities and keep juveniles out of the criminal justice system.

This important legislation marks a significant step forward in supporting young people who are vulnerable to engaging in problem behavior, criminal activity, and gangs. By providing positive opportunities and encouraging proven effective prevention strategies, we will make our communities safer and our youth stronger and better able to stay on a positive track toward adulthood.

Under H.R. 3846, communities facing the greatest youth gang and crime challenges will be able to form local councils and develop a comprehensive plan for implementing evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies. These strategies will be targeted at young people who are at-risk of becoming involved, or are already involved in, gangs or the criminal justice system to redirect them toward productive and law-abiding alternatives. If passed, this legislation will work to lower crime in our neighborhoods, create more cost savings to our federal budget and brighter futures for our youth.

The National PTA believes the Youth PROMISE Act is an effective approach to preventing gang violence in our communities and keeping youth out of the criminal justice system. We urge you to support and cosponsor this important legislation.

If National PTA can provide you with any further information or assistance, please contact Keri Haars, Public Policy Specialist, at 202-289-6790. To co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Erin Davies at (202) 225-8351 or [Erin.Davies@mail.house.gov](mailto:Erin.Davies@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jan Harp Domene".

Jan Harp Domene  
PTA National President  
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