

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, the House Judiciary Committee held a markup of H.R. 1064, the Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education Act, referred to as the Youth PROMISE Act. The Committee voted to report the bill favorably to the whole House of Representatives by a vote of 17-14.

The Youth PROMISE Act provides federal resources to implement evidence- and research-based strategies to reduce gang violence and juvenile crime at the local level. It is supported by a bi-partisan coalition of 232 House members and almost 250 national and state juvenile justice, civil rights, education and religious organizations.

"Today we have come one step closer to helping communities implement evidence-based strategies to address youth violence problems," said Rep. Scott. "With its vote today, a majority of the Judiciary Committee members supported a bill that will reduce crime and save money, and provide our children with the resources and opportunities they need to get on the right track early and stay there. It is my hope that this bill will continue to move through the House and become law so that we can provide our youth with a path that leads to college and the workforce, and not one that leads to gangs, crime, and prison."

The bill will next be considered by the House Education and Labor Committee, which shares jurisdiction over the legislation with the Judiciary Committee.

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