Petition for Relief from Drug War Injustice

In the mid 1980s Congress abolished parole and passed harsh drug sentencing laws. Many states followed, creating a ten-fold increase in the number of drug offenders incarcerated. We have lost cherished legal traditions and endured many other unintended consequences due to destructive anti-drug laws (prohibition).

It is illogical to spend tax dollars on long imprisonment when other means have proven far more effective in addressing the social problems of drug abuse and addiction. State leaders across the U.S. are reforming rigid sentencing guidelines, drug and parole policies. We urge federal leaders to do the same: provide prisoners with an incentive to maintain exemplary behavior in prison and earn early release.

Earned, early release would foster incentives toward cooperation, study, and learning skills that help create a safer environment for staff and prisoners alike. Families could be reunited earlier, with better prospects for prisoners' successful reentry into society.

High costs of incarcerating drug offenders would be dramatically reduced — with a 2008 budget of $5.4 billion, the US Bureau of Prisons incarcerates over 108,000 drug law violators (54% of federal prisoners), costing almost $3 billion annually.*

Inhumane prison overcrowding would be relieved — the federal system is 37% over capacity and growing more than 3% per year.

We, the undersigned, support November Coalition's demand for relief from drug war injustice through a revival of federal parole and/or a dramatic increase in good-time eligibility of prisoners in federal custody.

Print Name	Email	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone (optional)

The November Coalition

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Make as many copies as you need. We will send regular reports of support to US Elected Officials, the US Sentencing Commission, and media throughout the year. ***Please return signed petitions to:***

November Coalition Foundation • 282 West Astor • Colville, WA 99114

** Statistics updated 10/4/08 from US OMB data*