

OPEN LETTER TO GOVERNOR CHARLIE D. BAKER

AND

SENATOR WILLIAM N. BROWNSBERGER
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02133

May 5th, 2018

In RE: STG - PROGRAM PROPOSAL-DOC

Dear Governor Baker,
AND Senator Brownsberger;

Greetings!

I am writing this letter as a bi-partisan initiation in continuation of the OPEN LETTER CAMPAIGN in supporting Prison Reform and the opportunity to address important principles of justice, even-though many people don't care about prisoners' opinions. But I keep my hope alive that somehow legislative action will authorize pilot programs for the entire prison system and, further, conduct a comprehensive avaluation of those programs to assist law enforcement, school departments. and community leaders on how to deal with crime prevention by creating constingency plans aimed at juvenile gangs who are operating in cities and towns.

The Department of Correction (DOC) for many years has had tunnel vision, either it's "BLACK or WHITE" without putting attention to the growing gray area. The only time that people look at the gray area is when there is a case of police being murdered, rape amd murder or a drive-by shooting. The standard procedures need to be changed.

The D.O.C. is classifiying gang members as "SECURITY THREAT GROUPS-STG", without really knowing their own turf and form of operation.. Whitin the prison subculture language those groups are named as Nations, Associates or Brotherhoods with different turf and by-laws. Over the years I was able to connect the names of STG in prison and STG groups in the street. I dedicated many hours, days and years to understanding this human phenomenon. I studied avenues to deffuse gang activities. At one point I was doing college exchanges with Religious Humanities and I was taking classes on different factions from the Islamic Church. I was very courious indeed about their success in diffusing gang activities at the Housing Project ib Chicago. My teacher was a muslim from Lebanon and he was well-educated with a great knowledge of the Holy Koran. There was an indication that one one of the religious groups was able to broke down a couple of the paragraphs of the Holy Koran and interpreted that "Struggle for Life" has another meaning of Martydom.



NCCI - GARDNER
<http://betweenthebars.org/blogs/350-luis-d-perez>

My main concern is with the strong possibility of religious fanatics or cults radicalizing gang members for the purpose of committing sabotage on government installations or participating on terrorist attacks in U.S. territories, while we are having civil unrest of racial disparities in America.

There were cases of comparizon with other religious groups or cults that got trapped by fanatics' interpretation of the bible. We all learned from historical experience or cases like Jim Jones in Guayana how he was able to kill over a thousand of people or the situation of Waco Texas. Religious around the world have become a source of LOVE and POWER, while on the other hand fanatics among the 14 religious officially recognized religious of the world, for centuries have used religious for control and manipulation by killing people in the name of GOD.

For credibility purposes I am introducing (EXHIBIT-A) and my correspondence with Mr. Muller, as an act of good faith when America is in danger and how I reacted to the 9/11 attack. At that time the United States was dependent on Israel for Middle-East Intelligence and 9/11 caught them with the pants down. We can learn from the mistakes and work with the Program Proposal for STG and juvenile gangs in City's and Towns'.

It was easy for me to obtain certification, but I never knew how it would impact my personal life, when I was studying Protestantism and Catholicism. Religious education brought me to Native America diversity in comparison to Native Americans in Central and South America, including Natives from the Caribbeans. For credivility purposes I am also introducing letters from Bible Correspondence Schools (See Exhibit-B).

Governor Baker, Senator Brownsberger,

Again, based in good faith, I want you to know that at the present time, the traditional STG names have multiplied with other names, including those groups that belong to white people operating as STG in Cities and Towns. There are two main poits for programing, the component that can lead to success and eventually would create a network of evidence-based programs designed to reduce recidivist and gang activities in the community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Department of Youth Services will create a Training Program for Staff and Inmates, like the one we had 33 years ago from the Director of Training Mass: Criminal Justice Counsel. This program would help inmates to talk to Hight School and College Students from the same county where the prison or county jail is located.
2. Juvenile gang members arrested for minor offenses or first time offenders, can participate in programs at the prison, but a different style of programs than the one that was designed for the school

This kind of program with STG members or former STG will be targeting the major criminogenic risk factor's correlated with criminal behavior of juvenile gangs that cost them the incarceration. This project will also include females prisoners who may volunteer to participate.

Juveniles Judges from each county can assess the cases of Juvenile Offenders with the DOC and County Jails for program recommendations similar to what Judge Thomas Quinn did in small Proportion with us back in 1979 - and 1980 at MCI-WALPOLE.

COMMENTS

When Judge Quinn dies, we never had another program like that. The closer we got again was with the Boston Police Department "Community Disorders Unit" that began to bring youth offenders into the prison and Sgt. TiTo Whittington was dealing with a Juvenile Judge to avoid major incarceration for members that he arrested for involvement with drugs. At that time (2002-2004), there were two boot camps in operation, one in Plymouth and the other in Bridgewater. We were working with the one at Plymouth from Bay State Correctional Center. The Civil restraining at the boot camp was 4 or 6 months, including visiting our program at the prison. When Sgt. TiTo died, the program slowed down and the activities with the Boston Police Department were dissolved.

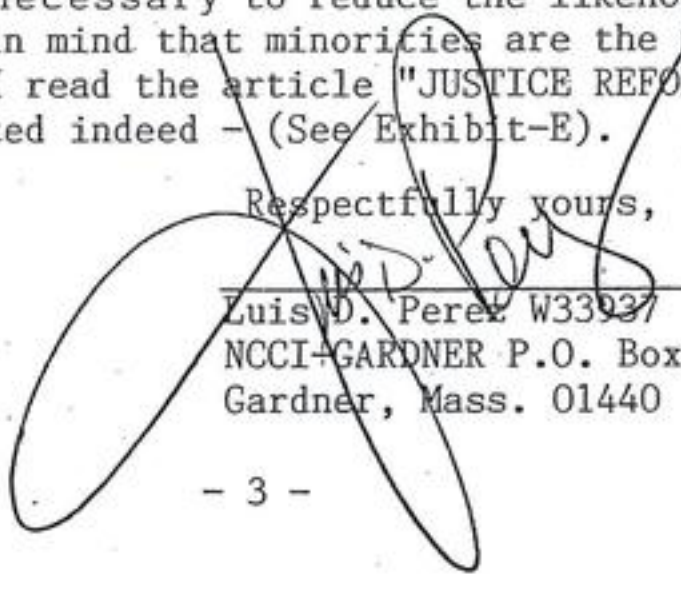
Back in 1989-1990 I was trying to obtain acceptance of Juvenile offenders into the National Guard or any other military service, but it was rejected (See Exhibit-C). Other ranking officers from the Army were saying that they considered all persons for enlistment into any of the U.S. Armed Services, the personnel in question were ineligible until such time as they have been released from all forms of civil restraint.

It is very important that you be aware that I was very close to having the program proposal being implemented back on 2008 when Mr. James R. Bender was a Deputy Commissioner. (See Exhibit-D). Unfortunately we don't have Judges like Thomas Quinn, Sgt. TiTo Whittington or Deputy Commissioner Bender anymore, but there are many people that are willing in good faith to work under the same progressive ideas.

CONCLUSION

STG in prison need to clear they name from the culture classification, create skills necessary to reduce the likelihood of future STG activities. - Please keep in mind that minorities are the majority of the entire prison population. I read the article "JUSTICE REFORM A GOP OPPORTUNITY", It was very interested indeed - (See Exhibit-E).

Respectfully yours,


Luis D. Perez W33937
NCCI-GARDNER P.O. Box 466
Gardner, Mass. 01440



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

EXHIBIT

A

Washington, D.C. 20535

December 21, 2001

Mr. Luis D. Perez
Bay State Correctional Center
Post Office Box 73
Norfolk, MA 02056-0073

Dear Mr. Perez:

Thank you for your October 31st correspondence to Director Mueller offering to assist the FBI with regard to security issues after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Unfortunately, due to the curtailment of mail services in Washington, D.C., it was just recently received. Your correspondence has been referred to the appropriate personnel.

I can certainly understand your desire to get involved and appreciate your willingness to help. However, thus far we have been meeting our needs with regard to this investigation. I want to assure you that the FBI is working around the clock to determine the full scope of these terrorist acts, to identify all of those involved in planning, executing, and assisting in the commission of these acts, and to bring those responsible to justice. In addition, Director Mueller is clear that the FBI's first priority is to prevent the occurrence of any additional terrorist acts. Please be assured that the FBI is committed to this effort.

Sincerely yours,

Nancy [redacted]
Unit Chief
Office of Public and
Congressional Affairs



ECS – Emmaus Correspondence School
ECS – Emmaus Prison Ministry
ECS – International Ministry
ECS – Publications

EXHIBIT

B

December 8, 2016

Luis Perez
P O Box 466
Gardner, MA 01440

Dear Luis:

In his thank-you letter to the Philippians, the apostle Paul talked about his spiritual goals. He said, "I keep working toward that day when I will finally be all that Christ Jesus saved me for and wants me to be" (Philippians 3:12 NLT). His desire was to continue to follow Christ so that Christ's purpose for him would be fulfilled in his life. Paul had already accomplished a great deal, but he was looking ahead and pressing toward another goal. His desire was to be found mature in Christ when at last he would be in His presence.

You have completed 96 units of study, which represents many hours of reading and studying God's Word. You have already reached some worthy goals—you have completed courses, passed exams, and gained new knowledge. Christ desires to continue to work in your life as you practice each day what you have learned. May your life continue to bear fruit until that day when you stand before Him. May your desire be that of the apostle's—to continue to press on to know more of Him and His Word to be found complete in Him at last.

We enthusiastically congratulate you on your outstanding achievement of completing Emmaus Correspondence School courses with a value of 96 units. "Continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of" (2 Timothy 3:14).

Warmly in Christ,

Terry Wilson, Director
ECS Ministries

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS



Universal Life Church

601 THIRD STREET, MODESTO, CA 95351 Ph(209) 527-8111 Fax(209) 527-8116

REV. ANDRE HENSLEY
PRESIDENT

ROBERT E. IMBEAU
VICE PRESIDENT

MANZANITA HENSLEY LOWARCH
SECRETARY/TREASURER

UNIVERSAL UNDERSTANDING AND
BROTHERHOOD WILL BRING PEACE

October 13th, 2016

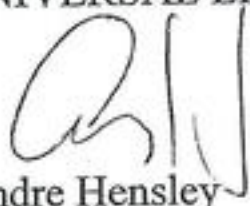
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to verify that Minister Luis Perez, PO Box 466, Gardner, MA 01440, upon acceptance of the tenets and precepts of the Church was duly ordained as a Minister of UNIVERSAL LIFE CHURCH, a non-profit religious organization that is engaged in carrying on it's teachings in the State of Massachusetts.

Minister Perez was ordained into the ministry on February 4th, 1992. Minister Cox is a minister in good standing with the Church and has authority to perform all Sacerdotal duties of the Ministry including the marriage rite.

Since becoming a Minister of Universal Life Church, Minister Perez has completed the course study of Doctor of Religious Humanities on February 4th, 1992, Doctor of Immortality on August 9th, 2016 and Doctor of Universal Life on August 31st, 2016. All Universal Life Church courses are accredited by the International Accrediting Assoc. as religious courses.

Sincerely
UNIVERSAL LIFE CHURCH HEADQUARTERS


Andre Hensley
President



March 22, 1989

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

EXHIBIT

C

Directorate of Military
Personnel Management

Mr. Luis Perez
Republican Presidential Task Force
Gardner Chapter 1010952
P.O. Box 466
Gardner, Massachusetts 01440

Dear Mr. Perez:

Thank you for your letter proposing a Juvenile Drafting Program.

The United States Army has an important mission. That mission is to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. In order to meet this mission, the Army must dedicate every dollar, every soldier, and every day towards training for war. A program such as the one proposed in your letter would detract from the Army's ability to train as it would like to.

The American public demands and deserves a high quality Army that is, as well, cost efficient. The costs associated with selecting, classifying, training, and equipping new recruits is extremely high. As a result, the high level enlistment requirements placed upon applicants for enlistment helps the Army to produce a high quality and cost efficient force. Studies conducted for the Army have verified that young men and women of the backgrounds mentioned in your letter would be less likely to complete their terms of enlistment. Therefore, it is important that the Army minimize the enlistment of applicants who have the potential to fail to complete their terms of enlistment.

As long as the US Army can continue to meet its recruiting and retention goals under the present system, it will continue to do so. Furthermore, it is felt that existing programs such as those mentioned in your letter are adequately designed and funded to meet the demands of those in need of them.

Again, thank you for your interest in helping America and its youth.

Sincerely,

JAMES S. [illegible]
Colonel, General Staff
Chief, Enlisted Accessions
Division



Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lieutenant Governor

Kevin M. Burke
Secretary

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

Department of Correction
50 Maple Street, Suite 3

Milford, Massachusetts 01757

Tel: (508) 422-3300

www.mass.gov/doc



Harold W. Clarke
Commissioner

James R. Bender
Ronald T. Duval
Veronica M. Madden
Deputy Commissioners

September 22, 2008

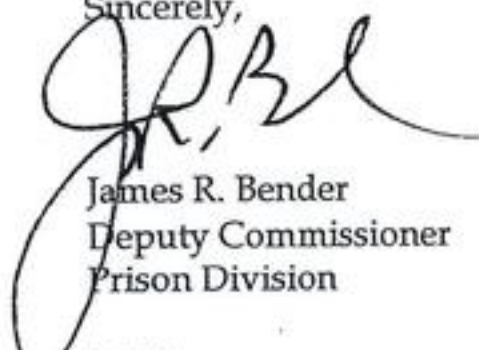
Luis Perez W33937
North Central Correctional Institution
P.O. Box 466
Gardner, MA 01440

Dear Mr. Perez:

I am writing in response to your September 11, 2008 letter concerning your proposal for Security Threat Groups cultural programs.

Please be advised that I am forwarding your letter and proposal to Veronica Madden, Deputy Commissioner of Classification, Programs and Reentry for her review and for her files.

Sincerely,


James R. Bender
Deputy Commissioner
Prison Division
JRB/mar

cc: Veronica Madden, Deputy Commissioner
Gary Roden, Superintendent, NCCI
Inmate folder

*Luis
Deputy Commissioner
is in charge of all
programs with the DOC
Sincerely
JRB*



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Correction
North Central Correctional Institution



Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lt. Governor

Kevin M. Burke
Secretary

500 Colony Road
P. O. Box 466
Gardner, MA 01440

(978) 630-6000, Fax (978) 630-6040

Harold W. Clarke
Commissioner

James R. Bender
Ronald T. Duval
Veronica M. Madden
Deputy Commissioners
Gary Roden
Superintendent

July 15, 2008

Luis Perez W-33937
North Central Correctional Institution
500 Colony Road
P.O. Box 466
Gardner, MA 01440

Dear Mr. Perez:

Your correspondence to Commissioner Clarke regarding the D.O.C. Operations and the manner to address all of the problems that exist with the population and racial conflicts has been referred to me for a response. In your letter you state the following:

"Also, it's important that you know that when the culture program was removed the gangs took over and over the last 1.5 years the problems have spread to our communities, while Superintendents and deputies have hidden under the table and have dedicated themselves to create regulations without any knowledge in the correction field. They need to come up with innovated ideas that will address the problems".

I believe this issue was already addressed in a letter dated October 25, 2007 by Christopher Mitchell which states the following:

"Please be advised that an STG program is currently under development by the Department. This program will be designed to change inmate behavior by targeting risk factors, the STG mindset, criminal thinking, and other key elements of underlying STG involvement. A goal of the program will be to reduce STG involvement and affiliation. Two vendor contract positions are being dedicated to facilitate this program. I urge you patience as the Department works towards implementing this initiative".

I, also, believe comments similar to what is in your letter, "It is for this reason that your administration could not adapt to new ideas and projects. The tunnel vision does not allow them to see around them. You can not draw water from a rock, the majority of the prisoners arrive at Concord with doubts "Victim fees" – "Court fees"

Luis Perez W-33937

July 15, 2008

Page 2

– Lawyers fees” and “Drug assessments”. All these things when there no sufficient money due to the prices in the canteen, not enough jobs, no vocational jobs ect. ect. Most of the money budgeted towards the D.O.C. goes towards your employees”.

Your similar concerns expressed were previously addressed by then Acting Commissioner Bender on October 3, 2007, as follows:

“While your comments and reflections are appreciated, please do not misconstrue my response as an endorsement of your ideas. I do, however, encourage you to submit your proposal for the curtailment of Security Threat Group activity to the Superintendent at North Central Correctional Institution”.

I trust this addresses your concerns.

Sincerely,



Gary Roden
Superintendent

GR/mrs

cc: Harold W. Clarke, Commissioner
File



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*

*Department of Correction
North Central Correctional Institution*

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Gardner, MA 01440

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Deval L. Patrick
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Lt. Governor

Kevin M. Burke
Secretary



Harold W. Clarke
Commissioner

James R. Bender
Ronald T. Duval
Veronica M. Madden
Deputy Commissioners
Gary Roden
Superintendent

September 30, 2008

Luis Perez W-33937
North Central Correctional Institution
500 Colony Road
P.O. Box 466
Gardner, MA 01440

Dear Mr. Perez:

Please be advised that your September 11, 2008, letter to Commissioner Harold Clarke and Deputy Commissioner James Bender regarding a program proposal for North Central Correctional Institution (NCCI) has been referred to me for reply.

While your intensions in requesting a cultural/STG group program at NCCI are appreciated, we have no plans to pursue offering this program at this facility. With regard to Project Wake-Up, this program remains a part of NCCI's offerings. We cannot, however, eliminate the challenges faced by outside groups in their ability to take advantage of this program. We remain ready and willing to provide the Project Wake-Up program to those schools/groups capable of attending.

I trust this addresses your concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary Roden
Superintendent

GR/mrs

cc: Harold W. Clarke, Commissioner
James Bender, Deputy Commissioner/Prison Division
Raymond Marchilli, Deputy Superintendent/Treatment and Programs
Anita Collins, Director of Treatment
Six-Part Folder
File



Mitt Romney
Governor
Kerry Healey
Lieutenant Governor
Edward A. Flynn
Secretary

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety

Department of Correction
Program Services Division

P. O. Box 351
Framingham, MA 01704
(508) 620-6437, Fax (508) 620-7099



Kathleen M. Dennehy
Commissioner
James R. Bender
Deputy Commissioner

June 7, 2005

Luis Perez, W33937
Bay State Correctional Center
PO Box 73
Norfolk, MA 02056

Dear Mr. Perez,


Your correspondence to Commissioner Kathleen M. Dennehy, dated April 22, 2005, regarding the transferring of STG members to BSCC for participation in the CRA program, and follow up letter dated May 16, 2005, urging the establishment of a pilot CRA program for STG members at BSCC, have been referred to me for reply.

Please be advised that the Massachusetts Department of Correction follows a system by which the security and program needs of each individual in the Department's custody is determined. These needs are regularly assessed and monitored. This system is governed by 103 CMR 420, Classification. In addition, as per 103 DOC 514, Security Threat Group Management, the classification of all inmates identified as members of a STG is determined pursuant to 103 CMR 420, Classification.

As you know, the Department has recently established a permanent CRA program at Bay State Correctional Center, with the first group of admissions occurring in May 2005. The eligibility criteria for the CRA program is a medium or high score on the Risk to Recidivate Assessment combined with a moderate or high score on the Needs Assessment. Therefore, any inmate that meets the eligibility criteria for the CRA program that transfers into Bay State Correctional Center is entitled to apply and enroll. Of course, enrollment into the CRA program is voluntary.

I trust this response addresses your concerns.

Sincerely,


Allison Hallett, Director
Program Services Division

cc: Kathleen Dennehy, Commissioner
Michael Corsini, Superintendent, Bay State Correctional Center
Al Dove, Director of Treatment/Classification, Bay State Correctional Center
File

EXHIBIT - E *he*

EXHIBIT





GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON CORRECTIONS REFORM

One Ashburton Place Room 2133

Boston, Massachusetts 02108

(617) 727-7775

MITT ROMNEY
GOVERNOR

KERRY HEALEY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

SCOTT HARSHBARGER
CHAIRMAN



March 29, 2004

Luis D. Perez
Bay State Correctional Center
P.O. Box 73
Norfolk, MA 02056

Dear Mr. Perez:

On behalf of the Governor's Commission on Corrections Reform, I wish to thank you for your letter of February 9, 2004. The role of the Commission, as established by the Governor, is to examine systemic issues relating to the Department of Corrections and make recommendations for change. Your correspondence will be used to assist us in identifying trends and systemic problems.

Thank you for your letter.

Sincerely,

Scott Harshbarger
Chair

PK

Justice reform a GOP opportunity

By JENNIFER NASSOUR

Dems keep pumping cash into wasteful prison system

Beacon Hill will take on criminal justice reform this fall. For an issue that rose to the top of the legislative agenda with progressive pressure, this is a massive opportunity for Republicans to seize. Like the state's transportation bureaucracy, which required a control board to clean it up, the Massachusetts corrections system is rife with political patronage and wholly unaccountable for the billions of hard-earned taxpayer dollars it consumes.

The system is most wasteful when it comes to those suffering from addiction and mental illness. Improving behavioral health services is the only way to keep these individuals from cycling in and out of jail and racking up tremendous costs. The problem is delivering treatment in correctional facilities is generally less effective and twice as expensive as therapy provided in the community. Even worse, the bill is borne entirely by the state because inmates typically have no insurance.

Massachusetts desper-

ately needs a community corrections system that holds these individuals accountable while providing them the care they need outside of costly imprisonment. But the Probation Department operates community corrections, and Democrats ran the agency into the ground with politically-connected hires.

Judges lost faith that Probation could safely supervise these individuals, so more often than not they're sent to the Houses of Correction. With a full-blown opiate crisis on our hands this is costing taxpayers tremendously, and it is tragic for those struggling with addiction who desperately need competent help.

A recent study authored by the former head of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation for the think tank MassINC shows just how badly the Democrat-controlled Leg-



Daly

BAKER: Moving to place low-level offenders into drug treatment.

islature is failing us. Over the past five years, correctional populations declined by more than 10 percent, and yet correctional spending rose by 18 percent. (If spending had been held in line with inflation, the budget would be \$72 million lower today). Make no mistake, the increase did not provide additional treatment or new programs to reduce recidivism; it paid for raises and more correctional officers to supervise fewer inmates.

The closer you look, the uglier it gets. An independent review by the Council of State Governments showed sex offenders and other violent criminals are not receiving in-prison services proven to reduce their likelihood of committing another crime. The same review also found that Massachusetts lets the most dangerous offenders out of prison without supervision. Instead, the state's dysfunc-

tional corrections system uses limited resources to look after those deemed least likely to re-offend. Failure to fix these problems exposes everyone to danger, particularly law enforcement professionals who regularly put themselves in harm's way.

Rather than trying to peg Democrats who back reform as soft on crime, Massachusetts Republicans should take a page from elsewhere. In many states, corrections reform has provided an opportunity to shrink government, eliminate waste and reduce crime.

Recent polling from MassINC shows Republicans in Massachusetts want to follow a similar course. Republican voters call for a treatment-over-prison response to the opiate crisis by a two-to-one margin.

When it comes to passing legislation, Republican lawmakers should begin by demanding data and transparency. None of the reform bills filed by Democrats asks correctional agencies to ac-

count for how they spend \$2 billion in public money each year. Republicans should also back pending legislation eliminating mandatory-minimum drug sentences for all but true drug kingpins, diverting defendants suffering from addiction from the justice system into treatment, and requiring that all high-risk offenders return to the community with appropriate supervision. Lastly, Republicans should fight for provisions that identify the savings these reforms generate and adjust correctional budgets accordingly.

Gov. Charlie Baker clearly sees the opportunity. Just last week the administration announced a new program to divert low-level offenders in Worcester into treatment. By joining the governor and truly leading on criminal justice reform, Republicans in the Legislature can demonstrate to voters how staying true to our vision of small and efficient government benefits all.

Jennifer Nassour is a Boston attorney, former chair of the Massachusetts Republican Party and a board member at MassINC.