

AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL

ALEC

April 21, 2010

Enclosed with this letter is a booklet "Taxpayer Funded Pretrial Release, A Failed System." We hope you and your staff will find this information helpful, as we at the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) believe this is a crucial public safety issue. ALEC is the nation's largest non-partisan membership organization for state legislators with almost 2,000 members.

A significant cause of crime victims within your legislative district is embedded within the local criminal justice system itself: the county's pretrial services agency.

There are two means of release from pretrial custody: secured and unsecured release. The first holds down the crime rate. The second increases it. Unfortunately, the unworkable method is advanced via a government agency. Local citizens are totally unaware that their tax dollars are used in a way that literally creates crime in their community.

ALEC believes your constituents have a right to accountability from these operations which are underwritten by their taxes. "Taxpayer Funded Pretrial Release, A Failed System ", will provide the needed foundation for your consideration of the ALEC Model Bill, *Citizens' Right To Know: Pretrial Release Act*, a copy of which is enclosed.

ALEC stands ready to support you in reducing the number of crime victims among your constituents. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 202-742-8530 or at mhough@alec.org.

Sincerely,



Michael Hough
Director Public Safety and Elections Task Force