

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1806

To require prisons and other correctional facilities holding Federal prisoners under a contract with the Federal Government to make the same information available to the public that Federal prisons and correctional facilities are required to do by law.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2005

Mr. STRICKLAND (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. HOLDEN, and Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require prisons and other correctional facilities holding Federal prisoners under a contract with the Federal Government to make the same information available to the public that Federal prisons and correctional facilities are required to do by law.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Private Prison Infor-
5 mation Act of 2005".

1 SEC. 2. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUIREMENT FOR
2 CONTRACT PRISONS.

3 Each non-governmental entity contracting with the
4 Federal Government to provide a prison or other correc-
5 tional facility, shall have the same duty to release informa-
6 tion about the operation of that prison or facility as a Gov-
7 ernment owned and run prison or correctional facility has
8 under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, com-
9 monly called the Freedom of Information Act. Any party
10 aggrieved by a violation of that duty may, in a civil action,
11 obtain appropriate relief against that entity or any other
12 proper party.

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Bill Summary & Status for the 109th Congress

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H.R.1806

Title: To require prisons and other correctional facilities holding Federal prisoners under a contract with the Federal Government to make the same information available to the public that Federal prisons and correctional facilities are required to do by law.

Sponsor: [Rep Strickland, Ted](#) [OH-6] (introduced 4/21/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (16)

Latest Major Action: 4/21/2005 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

COSPONSORS(16), ALPHABETICAL [followed by Cosponsors withdrawn]: (Sort: [by date](#))

[Rep Baca, Joe](#) [CA-43] - 7/14/2005

[Rep Capuano, Michael E.](#) [MA-8] - 7/26/2005

[Rep Frank, Barney](#) [MA-4] - 5/12/2005

[Rep Kennedy, Patrick J.](#) [RI-1] - 4/21/2005

[Rep Langevin, James R.](#) [RI-2] - 5/10/2005

[Rep McGovern, James P.](#) [MA-3] - 5/12/2005

[Rep Napolitano, Grace F.](#) [CA-38] - 9/2/2005

[Rep Schwarz, John J.H. "Joe"](#) [MI-7] - 9/21/2005

[Rep Bishop, Sanford D., Jr.](#) [GA-2] - 6/29/2005

[Rep Conyers, John, Jr.](#) [MI-14] - 9/8/2005

[Rep Holden, Tim](#) [PA-17] - 4/21/2005

[Rep King, Peter T.](#) [NY-3] - 4/21/2005

[Rep McDermott, Jim](#) [WA-7] - 9/8/2005

[Rep McNulty, Michael R.](#) [NY-21] - 9/8/2005

[Rep Payne, Donald M.](#) [NJ-10] - 9/8/2005

[Rep Watson, Diane E.](#) [CA-33] - 9/8/2005



Michigan Corrections Organization

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September 2nd, 2005

Richard Loud
C/O Corrections USA
PO Box 1155
Thayne, WY 83127

Dear Richard,

I am writing to update you on what MCO has done so far regarding HR1806, the Private Prison Information Act. Earlier this summer, I wrote the entire Michigan delegation including the U.S. Senate. We previously sent you copies of those letters. Also, MCO recently contacted SEIU International to request its support in passing this legislation. About two weeks ago, SEIU International Secretary-Treasurer Anna Burger sent a letter (enclosed) to all U.S. Representatives urging them to co-sponsor and support HR1806 on behalf of SEIU's 1.8 million members. Additionally, the SEIU Legislative Division has been speaking with several representatives urging them to add their name to this legislation.

As you may know, three new Representatives have co-sponsored the bill: Rep. Donald Payne (NJ), Rep. Diane Watson (CA), and Rep. Jim McDermott (CA). For your information, we are now hearing that opposition groups have been lobbying Representatives – including republican members of the Michigan delegation – against this bill, arguing that this bill would force private prisons to release “trade and business secrets”. This may be the message we will need to counter in the coming weeks.

In addition to the letter sent by the SEIU, I have enclosed a few of the responses we have received from our Michigan representatives thus far. I look forward to continuing our joint effort to pass this important legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or information.

Sincerely,

Mel Grieshaber
Executive Director

