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July 11, 2014

Chair Patti Saris
U.S. Sentencing Commission
One Columbus Circle NE, Suite 2-500
Washington, DC 20002-8002

Attn: Public Affairs-Retroactivity Public Comment

Dear Chair Saris,

I write to express my support for amending U.S.S.G. § 1B1.10 to make Amendment 3 retroactive.

Known as the "drugs minus two" amendment, this reform would lower the federal drug sentencing guidelines by two levels. The U.S. Sentencing Commission voted in support of this change in April 2014 and with Congress's support it will go into effect this November.

I urge the Commission to apply Amendment 3 to current prisoners who have already been sentenced, as a matter of equity and fundamental fairness. Retroactive application of the amendment will save billions of dollars, ease overcrowding in federal prisons, and lessen the disproportionate impact of drug sentences on tens of thousands of people and families.

I thank the Commission for its demonstrated commitment to improving the fairness of our federal drug sentencing guidelines.

Sincerely,

Beto O'Rourke.

Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress

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