Bill Number

This bill was introduced by Rep. Maxine Waters (CA-43) as H.R.1882.

Purpose of Bill

This bill will direct the Bureau of Prisons to create comprehensive policy to provide HIV testing, treatment, and prevention for inmates in federal prisons and upon reentry into the community, as well as report on the effectiveness of efforts to minimize diseases transmitted through sexual activity and intravenous drug use.

Action Request

Ask your representatives to support and cosponsor this bill if they have not yet done so, especially if they are part of the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Talking Points

• LGBTQ people are especially vulnerable to HIV and other STIs due to lack of inclusive preventative education. This bill provides LGBTQ inmates with preventative education and provides them with treatment and testing for HIV.

• Federal prisons should be motivated to preserve the health of their inmates. Since this bill requires the Bureau of Prisons to report on the success rate of their testing, treatment, and prevention programs, federal prisons will have extra incentive to fulfill the legislation's requirements.

• Inmates are human beings with autonomy. This bill gives inmates the right to refuse routine testing, lessening the risk of potential abuse of authority.