

ABA Washington Letter/June 2018

**LEGISLATIVE BOXSCORE**

LEGISLATIVE ISSUE	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL	ABA POSITION
<p><b>Criminal Justice.</b> H.R. 1809 and S. 860 would reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJJPA). H.R. 2480, H.R. 2473, S. 1311 and S. 1312 are aimed at combating human trafficking. H.R. 510 and S. 139 would establish a system for the use of Rapid DNA. S.1917 would reform sentencing and corrections practices. S. 1994, S. 2795 and H.R. 5682 would implement corrections reforms. H.R. 2899 would reauthorize the Second Chance Act. HR. 1795 would reform asset forfeiture laws. H.R. 38 and S. 446 would mandate concealed-carry reciprocity.</p>	<p>House passed H.R. 1809 on 5/23/17. House passed H.R. 2473 on 5/23/17. Judiciary Cmte. approved H.R. 2480 on 6/28/17. House passed H.R. 510 on 5/16/17. House passed H.R. 38 on 12/6/17. House passed H.R. 5682 on 5/22/18.</p>	<p>Senate passed S. 860 and H.R. 510 on 8/1/17. Senate passed S. 1311 and S. 1312 on 9/11/17. S. 1917 was referred to Judiciary Cmte. on 10/4/17; S. 1994, on 10/19/17. Judiciary Cmte. approved S. 1917 on 2/15/18. Judiciary Cmte. held a hearing on gun violence on 3/14/18.</p>	<p>President signed P.L. 115-50 (H.R. 510) on 8/18/17.</p>	<p><b>Supports sentencing and correction reform. Supports JJJPA and Second Chance Act reauthorization. Supports funding for federal and state indigent defense programs. Supports certain civil asset forfeiture reforms. Supports bills to combat human trafficking. Supports prompt collection and testing of DNA evidence.</b></p>
<p><b>Immigration.</b> The president announced a new travel ban restricting entry into the country from eight countries. Federal judges temporarily blocked the ban for those seeking entry from six of the eight countries. The Supreme Court has allowed some of the restrictions to go into effect. The president announced he is phasing out the Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program by March 5, 2018. Federal courts have blocked the president's order. The administration implemented "zero tolerance" policy resulting in family separation at border. S. 3036 would limit the separation of families at the border.</p>		<p>Senate failed to pass several proposals to address the DACA program. Judiciary subc. held a hearing on the immigration court system on 4/18/18. S. 3036 was referred to the Judiciary Cmte. on 6/8/18.</p>		<p><b>Supports improvements in the immigration court and adjudication system. Opposes mandatory detention and supports alternatives to detention. Supports access to counsel and due process safeguards. Supports legislation that includes a path to citizenship for certain undocumented persons who enter the country as minors and have significant ties to the United States.</b></p>
<p><b>Legal Services Corporation (LSC).</b> The president's FY 2018 and 2019 budgets included phaseout funding for LSC. P.L. 115-141 (H.R. 1625) includes a \$25 million increase to \$410 million for FY 2018.</p>	<p>House passed H.R. 1625 on 3/22/18. Approps. Cmte. approved \$410 million for LSC for FY 2019 on 5/17/18.</p>	<p>Senate passed H.R. 1625 on 3/23/18. Approps. Cmte. approved \$410 million for LSC for FY 2019 on 6/14/18.</p>	<p>President signed P.L. 115-141 (H.R. 1625) on 3/23/18.</p>	<p><b>Supports an independent, well-funded LSC.</b></p>
<p><b>Tort Reform.</b> H.R. 1215 would preempt state medical liability laws to impose caps on non-economic damages H.R. 985 would class action lawsuits. H.R. 720 would require mandatory monetary sanctions against lawyers who file non-meritorious lawsuits.</p>	<p>House passed H.R. 1215 on 6/28/17. House passed H.R. 985 on 3/9/17. House passed H.R. 720 on 3/10/17.</p>			<p><b>Opposes the bills. Opposes preemption of state medical liability laws and the bypassing of the Rules Enabling Act to amend the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.</b></p>