

**From:** [Robert Griffith](#)  
**To:** [Public Affairs](#)  
**Subject:** [External] First Step eligibility, public input  
**Date:** Monday, October 17, 2022 8:12:10 AM

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Dear Sir,

I am chairman of Elevate USA, a non-profit organization working with urban youth, who are often involved in the judicial system. <https://elevatetheusa.org/>

The public has been invited to comment on expanding eligibility for the First Step Act for incarcerated federal inmates. I would request that automatic exclusion from the First Step Act be extremely limited, as individual circumstances are not able to be taken into account. Empowering local officials to ascertain the individual motives and community risks involved would allow a truer sense of justice to be determined. Specifically, I would request that eligibility be extended to include penal code 50 USC§1705. Those convicted under this code are typically non-violent individuals who were previously useful members of their community. The potential benefits to their early processing to themselves and their community are great, with little to no risk. I urge you to extend First Step Act eligibility to them if their recidivism score is low or minimal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert Griffith  
Elevate USA, Co-Chair

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Robert Sent from mobile device. Please excuse brevity/errors due to my big fingers on a tiny keyboard