



Office of the Executive Director

**National District Attorneys Association**

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April 9, 2007

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-2101

Dear Senator Kennedy:

On behalf of the members of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), I am writing to express our organization's support of the "Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007."

Crimes motivated by hate and bias demand immediate attention from local law enforcement authorities because of the special emotional and psychological impact these crimes have upon the victims. Furthermore such crimes have the potential to trigger community tensions and unrest. Strengthened federal bias crime legislation would facilitate the ability of the federal government to share investigative resources, training and forensic expertise with state and local authorities in appropriate circumstances. With local law enforcement and prosecutors investigating and prosecuting approximately 95% of the crimes committed such assistance would certainly provide state and local officials with the necessary tools to address crimes motivated by hate.

The National District Attorneys Association supports, the "Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007" not only because of its proposal to provide additional resources and federal assistance to state and local authorities for the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes but also its recognition of the primacy of state and local jurisdiction over such crimes.

If you need any additional information please contact Rhea Arledge, NDAA legislative counsel at either 703-519-1679 or by e-mail at [rhea.arledge@ndaa.org](mailto:rhea.arledge@ndaa.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Charron".

Thomas J. Charron  
Executive Director

cc: National District Attorneys Association's Board of Directors