

Speaker Ryan: Congress passes historic, bipartisan criminal justice reform legislation

Posted on Thursday, Dec 20, 2018

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WASHINGTON—House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) released this statement following the bipartisan passage of the revised *FIRST STEP* Act:

“This is something I have believed in for a long time. As Americans, we are about lifting people up—there is no reason a person who wants to redeem themselves, work hard, and contribute to their community should be deprived of that opportunity. Once this legislation is signed by the president, that ethos will be further etched into law. These reforms to our criminal justice system will not only reduce recidivism and make communities safer, but they will help people into lives of purpose. Today is an encouraging day for countless families who are ready for a new beginning.”