

Support Memos Written on Behalf of the ASFA Expanded Discretion Bill (A.5462-A/S.2233-A):

1. **Advisory Board of the Governor's Children's Cabinet:** The Children's Cabinet was established by the New York State Governor in 2007 to advise and make recommendations to the Governor on policies and programs that will improve the lives of the state's youth, including children in foster care and children with incarcerated parents. www.ccf.state.ny.us/Initiatives/CabHome.htm
2. **Big Brothers and Big Sisters of NYC:** A mentoring agency founded in 1904 which provides "direct mentoring services to children and teens from low-income, single-adult families across the city." www.bigsnyc.org
3. **Bronx Defenders:** "An interdisciplinary, client-centered public defense office in the Bronx" and "the first institutional provider of parent representation in Bronx Family Court." www.bronxdefenders.org
4. **The Center for Family Representation:** "A nonprofit law and policy organization whose mission is to guarantee that every family that can safely live together has the chance to do so." www.cfrny.org
5. **Correctional Association of New York:** "A non-profit policy organization that works to improve prison conditions and advocates for a more humane criminal justice system and a more safe and just society." www.correctionalassociation.org
6. **Children's Defense Fund:** "A nonprofit child advocacy organization that has worked 35 years to champion policies and programs to lift children out of poverty; protect them from abuse; and ensure their access to health care and quality education." www.childrensdefense.org
7. **Children of Promise:** "A Brooklyn based organization committed to embracing and empowering children of incarcerated parents to break the cycle of intergenerational involvement in the criminal justice system." www.childrenofpromisenyc.org
8. **Changing the World One Child at a Time:** A non-profit "dedicated to developing innovative and creative solutions to resolve issue of permanency for foster youth and to find adoptive homes for older children." www.ctwocat.org
9. **Federation for Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA):** A membership organization with almost 300 community-based social service agencies and church-based human service programs in its network, including more than thirty child welfare organizations. www.fpwa.org
10. **Hour Children:** A nonprofit, "non-sectarian Queens based organization which provides a stable and nurturing environment for children during and after mother's time of imprisonment and provides support to women in the process of family reunification." www.hourchildren.org
11. **Legal Action Center:** "a non-profit public interest law firm and policy organization that specializes in fighting discrimination against and protecting the rights of people with alcohol or drug problems, HIV/AIDS or criminal records." www.lac.org
12. **Legal Aid Society's Juvenile Rights Practice:** A legal services organization that "represents 90 percent of the children who appear before the Family Court in New York City on child protective, termination of parental rights, PINS (person in need of supervision), and juvenile delinquency petitions." www.legal-aid.org/en/whatwedo/juvenilepractice.aspx
13. **Legal Information for Families Today:** A nonprofit "dedicated to empowering unrepresented litigants with legal information and guidance so that they can successfully advocate for themselves in Family Court." www.liftonline.org
14. **Nassau Inmate Advocacy Group:** Dedicated "to raise the awareness of providing proper medical care, fair legal representation and adequate food, water and shelter for inmates." www.nassau-inmate-advocacy-group.org
15. **New York City Citizen Review Panel:** "comprised of citizen volunteers who are authorized by law to examine the policies, procedures and practices of the State and social services districts and... evaluate the extent to which the agencies are effectively discharging their child protection responsibilities." www.citizenreviewpanelsny.org
16. **New York State Correctional Officers and Police Benevolent Association (NYSCOPBA):** A union which "represents over 23,000 New York State employees in the Security Services Unit." www.nyscopba.org
17. **Osborne Association:** A non-profit organization that "offers opportunities for individuals who have been in conflict with the law to transform their lives through innovative, effective, and replicable programs that serve the community by reducing crime and its human and economic costs." www.osborneny.org

18. **Prevent Child Abuse New York:** A non-profit “founded in 1980, we promote and initiate efforts to develop, improve and expand quality services and effective policies to prevent child abuse and neglect and to protect all children.” www.preventchildabuseny.org/aboutus.shtml
19. **Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy (SCAA):** an Albany-based statewide, nonprofit, policy analysis and advocacy organization working since 1872 to shape policies that improve health, welfare and human services in New York State. www.scaany.org
20. **Honorable Betty J. Williams:** a Civil Court judge for the City of New York Kings County, member of the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ), and former chair of the NAWJ Women in Prison Sub-Committee.
21. **Women On The Rise Telling Her Story (WORTH):** “An advocacy and consulting group of formerly and currently incarcerated women empowered by their own experiences who engage, navigate and challenge policies and perceptions concerning incarcerated women.” www.womenontherise-worth.org
22. **Women’s Prison Association:** A non-profit organization which is “a service and advocacy organization committed to helping women with criminal justice histories obtain work, housing and healthcare; to rebuild their families; and to participate in civic life.” www.wpaonline.org