

*This letter may be used as a sample and customized for use by agencies, organizations or individuals. Please edit as required for use.*

[Date]

Dear Congressman/woman [name]:

I am contacting you to ask for your support of H.R.1956, the Crime Victim Restitution and Court Fee Intercept Act. The Act would allow for the interception of federal income tax refunds by states for unpaid fines, fees or victim restitution. As a community corrections professional, I am often called upon to enforce court orders for payment of these debts, and it is quite challenging. I also recognize the importance of providing financial recompense for victims of crime.

Oftentimes, these payments are never received from offenders. This legislation would enable states to collect on these unpaid debts allowing the funds to be allocated to victim restitution or offender programs.

Many national organizations support this resolution; the National Association for Court Management, National Association of Counties, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Government Finance Officers Association, National Center for Victims of Crime, Conference of Chief Justices, Conference of State Court Administrators and the American Probation and Parole Association.

Please feel free to contact me at the phone number or email listed below if you would like additional information regarding this matter and its importance to community corrections and victims of crime.

Sincerely,