

**Senator Patrick Gallivan**

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Dear Senator Patrick Gallivan,

I am writing to urge you to support and sponsor the Safe And Fair Evaluation (SAFE) Parole Act. Our state's current parole process is not working. Thousands of people languish in prison even after clearly demonstrating their readiness to return to their families. Denying parole applications to people who have prepared to transition back to their communities by participating in educational and vocational programs makes the process feel dangerously hopeless. And, as you know, the parole board is not currently required to give any guidance to people in prison whose parole applications they reject.

- *Insert your personal story of parole denial here. Describe how hard you worked to prepare yourself to reenter society and make a positive contribution in your community.*
- *Mention how many times you've been denied parole and how you don't understand why*
- *Tell the Senator about the family and lawyers who have worked tirelessly to help you prepare for your hearing, despite receiving little or no constructive feedback.*
- *Remind him that you cannot do anything about the nature of your crime.*
- *Paint a picture for Senator Gallivan of your experience. Let him know how urgent this policy change is.*

We are asking you to improve the parole process by increasing parole board accountability and empowering people in prison to prepare for parole. We need this reform to strengthen our communities and to reunite our families. We need the SAFE Parole Act. As a former Parole Board member and Chair of the Senate Crime Committee, your leadership is imperative. Please help us achieve these changes by sponsoring this legislation today.

Sincerely,

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*Milk Not Jails, 497 Quincy Street, Brooklyn, NY 11221*

*- or - [action@milknottjails.org](mailto:action@milknottjails.org)*