



FAMM is pleased to announce that on January 23rd, President Donald J. Trump enacted H.R. 6938, the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026, into law.

This is a major step forward to ensuring transparency within the federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and providing real solutions not just for incarcerated people, but for their loved ones as well. While H.R. 6938 did not include specific funding for FPOA implementation, it preserved House and Senate report language directing the Department of Justice to move forward with planning and establishing the Ombudsman office and inspection system. In short, Congress has made clear that DOJ should begin preparing to implement the program, even as funding details are still being worked out.

In 2024, the bipartisan Federal Prison Oversight Act (FPOA) was signed into law to bring long-overdue transparency and accountability to the federal prison system through the creation of an independent Ombudsman and a new inspection framework. The law envisions implementation once Congress provides dedicated funding.

FAMM is pleased by the continued bipartisan support and meaningful progress toward implementation. Furthermore, we are actively working with Congress and other stakeholders to ensure that planning moves forward, and that dedicated funding is secured so the oversight system can launch as intended.

We will continue pressing for both clear funding and swift action so the FPOA delivers the accountability, safety, and transparency that incarcerated people, correctional staff, and families deserve.