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**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-57**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING H.R. 1064 AND S. 435 THE YOUTH PROMISE ACT WHICH CREATES MENTORING, EDUCATIONAL AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS FOR AT-RISK YOUTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF REDUCING GANG VIOLENCE AND CRIME AND STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITIES.**

**WHEREAS**, Resolution supporting H.R. 1064 and S. 435, known as the Youth PROMISE Act (Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education), which creates mentoring, educational and intervention programs for at-risk youth for the purpose of reducing gang violence and crime and strengthening our communities.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Albany is committed to ensuring that youth lead productive, safe, healthy, gang-free and law-abiding lives; and

**WHEREAS**, evidence-based and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention are needed to help build individual, family, and community strength and resiliency in youth; and,

**WHEREAS**, H.R. 1064, introduced by Representatives Robert "Bobby" Scott and Michael Castle, and S. 435, introduced by Senators Robert Casey and Olympia Snowe, the Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education Act (Youth PROMISE Act), would amend the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Youth PROMISE Act establishes a PROMISE Advisory Panel to assist the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in:

- assessing and developing standards and evidence-based practices to prevent juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity;
- collecting data in designated geographic areas to assess the needs and existing resources for juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention; and,

1       **WHEREAS**, the Youth PROMISE Act authorizes grants to local governments to:

- 2       • plan, assess, and implement PROMISE programs for juvenile delinquency and  
3       criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention, especially for at-risk  
4       youth, in local communities;
- 5       • hire and train law enforcement officers as youth-oriented police to work with  
6       local PROMISE Coordinating Councils, other community-based organizations,  
7       and high-risk youths;
- 8       • extend and increase funding for juvenile accountability block grants through  
9       Fiscal Year 2013;
- 10      • create and expand state, local, and tribal juvenile witness and victim protection  
11      programs; and,

12       **WHEREAS**, Local PROMISE Coordinating Councils will include representatives  
13      from law enforcement, juvenile justice, courts, schools, social services, health providers,  
14      community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, parents and youth; and

15       **WHEREAS**, locally PROMISE Coordinating Councils will develop a  
16      comprehensive action plan based on a needs and strengths assessment of the community;  
17      and

18       **WHEREAS**, the Act establishes funding to create a National Research Center for  
19      research assistance and to disseminate research of current evidence based and promising  
20      practices to local jurisdictions so that the results can be replicated in other communities;  
21      and

22       **WHEREAS**, the Youth PROMISE Act could provide additional resources to  
23      support the City's gang prevention and intervention efforts; and,

24       **WHEREAS**, H.R. 1064 has passed the Judiciary Committee of the House of  
25      Representatives and has enough votes to pass out of the Education and Labor Committee;  
26      and

27       **WHEREAS**, the Albany Youth Master Plan calls for the creation of partnerships  
28      among diverse segments of the community including public and private sector programs,  
29      community organizations, businesses, religious and educational institutions, students, and  
30      residents of all ages; and

31       **WHEREAS**, the City of Albany is committed to maintaining an environment that  
32      is supportive of youth and families; and

