

February 5, 2014

To the Members of the Congress of the United States:

We the undersigned members of the Faculties of Harvard Law School and Boston College Law School write to indicate our support for the following core principles incorporated in the pending legislation known as CHIFF (Children in Families First), S. 1530 and H.R. 3323:

1. Recognition of the child's fundamental human right to a nurturing permanent family;
2. Commitment by the U.S. government to vindication of that right; and
3. Recognition that children's interests are generally best served by early placement in permanent nurturing families, and accordingly that:
  - a) Priority should be put on reunifying children with their parents of origin and, where that is not possible or appropriate, on placing children in adoptive homes;
  - b) Priority for domestic over international adoption should be pursued through concurrent planning, so that if domestic adoptive homes are not quickly available, children are placed in available international adoptive homes.

Sincerely,

***Harvard Law School Faculty Members***

Deborah E. Anker  
Clinical Professor of Law  
Director, Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program

Elizabeth Bartholet  
Morris Wasserstein Public Interest Professor of Law  
Faculty Director, Child Advocacy Program

Robert C. Bordone  
Thaddeus R. Beal Clinical Professor of Law  
Director, Harvard Negotiation and Mediation Clinic

I. Glenn Cohen  
Professor of Law, Co-Director, Petrie-Flom Center  
for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics

Christine A. Desan  
Leo Gottlieb Professor of Law

Charles Donahue  
Paul A. Freund Professor of Law

Einer R. Elhauge  
Carroll and Milton Petrie Professor of Law

Charles Fried  
Beneficial Professor of Law

Jesse M. Fried  
Professor of Law

***Boston College Law School Faculty Members***

Paulo Barrozo  
Assistant Professor of Law

Robert M. Bloom  
Professor of Law

Joan E. Blum  
Associate Professor of Legal Reasoning,  
Research & Writing

Mark S. Brodin  
Professor of Law

Frank J. Garcia  
Professor of Law  
Associate Dean for Global Initiatives

Jane Kent Gionfriddo  
Professor of Legal Reasoning, Research & Writing

Kent Greenfield  
Professor of Law and Dean's Research Scholar

Frank. R. Herrmann  
Associate Professor of Law

Daniel Kanstroom  
Professor of Law  
Director, International Human Rights Program

## ***Harvard Law School Faculty Members***

Gerald E. Frug  
Louis D. Brandeis Professor of Law

Michael Gregory  
Assistant Clinical Professor of Law

D. James Greiner  
Professor of Law

Janet Halley  
Royall Professor of Law

Jon D. Hanson  
Alfred Smart Professor of Law  
Director, Project on Law and Mind Sciences

Bruce L. Hay  
Professor of Law

Philip B. Heymann  
James Barr Ames Professor of Law

Wendy B. Jacobs  
Clinical Professor of Law  
Director, Emmett Environmental Law and Policy Clinic

David W. Kennedy  
Manley O. Hudson Professor of Law  
Director, Institute for Global Law and Policy

Randall L. Kennedy  
Michael R. Klein Professor of Law

Reneir H. Kraakman  
Ezra Ripley Thayer Professor of Law

Bruce H. Mann  
Carl F. Schipper, Jr. Professor of Law

Frank I. Michelman  
Robert Walmsley University Professor, Emeritus

Robert H. Mnookin  
Samuel Williston Professor of Law  
Director, Harvard Negotiation Research Project

Charles R. Nesson  
Weld Professor of Law

Richard D. Parker  
Paul W. Williams Professor of Criminal Justice

Intisar A. Rabb  
Professor of Law  
Director, Islamic Legal Studies Program

## ***Boston College Law School Faculty Members***

Cynthia Crawford Lichtenstein  
Professor Emeritus

Daniel Lyons  
Assistant Professor of Law

Ray D. Madoff  
Professor of Law

Alan D. Minuskin  
Associate Clinical Professor of Law  
Director, London Program

Judith A. McMorrow  
Professor of Law

Vlad Perju  
Associate Professor of Law  
Director, Clough Center for the Study of  
Constitutional Democracy

Zygmunt Jan Broël Plater  
Professor of Law

James R. Repetti  
William J. Kenealy Professor of Law

Evangeline Sarda  
Associate Clinical Professor of Law  
Director, Prosecution Clinic

Francine Sherman  
Clinical Associate Professor  
Director, Juvenile Rights Advocacy Project

Mark Spiegel  
Professor of Law

Paul R. Tremblay  
Clinical Professor of Law  
Faculty Director of Experiential Learning

David A. Wirth  
Professor of Law  
Director, International Law Program

Nora Wylie  
Assistant Professor

Katharine G. Young  
Associate Professor of Law

## *Harvard Law School Faculty Members*

David Rosenberg  
Lee S. Kreindler Professor of Law

David L. Shapiro  
William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law, Emeritus

Henry J. Steiner  
Jeremiah Smith, Jr. Professor of Law, Emeritus

Alan A. Stone, M.D.  
Touroff-Glueck Professor of Law and Psychiatry

Ronald S. Sullivan Jr.  
Clinical Professor of Law  
Director, Criminal Justice Institute

Laurence H. Tribe  
Carl M. Loeb University Professor

Lucie E. White  
Louis A. Horvitz Professor of Law

David B. Wilkins  
Lester Kissel Professor of Law  
Director, Program on the Legal Profession