Brian Tilton

From: Michael T Gilmore [MiToGi@roadrunner.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 12:54 PM

To: news@conwaydailysun.com

Subject: ConwaySun: Corrections to my previous letters <=> Lynch Press Release

Attachments: _Certification_.txt

After seeing the "Release" from the Lynch site, I feel I must make you aware of just what they failed to print. The omissions completely change my message and intent.

Feel free to share with anyone. I have nothing to hide.

regards, michael

The **bold text** is what Lynch omitted:

Title: Admit it, fix it, get on with your life

It is how we were raised, how to handle our mistakes. "You can not ignore them and just walk away." Well this is what I am doing here now. It is in reference to some of my statements and "facts" I posted about SB500. First, everything I (we) have said has been true to the best of our knowledge at the time. As we continue dig deeper, reach farther and look everywhere, the details, more important details are slowly coming out. There are enough "sound bytes" floating around to confuse everyone. I apologize for my part in this and can only say that in the haste to get information out we were unable to get all the scattered details correct and verified. I will not address the confusion over what the bill was or was not supposed to be. That will be an issue to be addressed separately, later.

These are corrections or updates I must make now:

- the parole offenders do not go to county jail they will be returned the State Prison in Berlin for "special" intense supervision. It will not be a "walk in the park". Only the "fast track" 1-5 day minor infraction sentences go to county lockup.
- the "9 month mandatory release": this is the hardest section to truly understand. Yes, the violent offenders are and must be included. On this I also agree and if you honestly listen to the reasoning, I believe you will too. The violent & sex offenders are ones whose maximum sentences are measured in tens of years. These are the worst offenders. First, if not released with monitoring & help, they must be released unconditionally at the end of their maximum sentence. With SB500, it gives us 9 months to help them adjust to entry back into the community. Nine months to get them on the right path, law abiding and leading productive lives. The majority will be helped and we avoid repeat offenses. Those who do not will face strict punishment in the program or under new charges for more jail time. Of these, only a very few are at the heart of the emotional rhetoric the very bad, violent and sexual offenders. Yes, some of them will reoffend, but being out nine months earlier won't matter to them. Reality states we can not completely eliminate this, but we can try to reduce it as much as possible. True we all never want to see them again but that is not the way our laws work. We must let them out. Now do you want them getting out free to roam and do whatever, or out with help, monitoring and assisted in rejoining society?

Remember, nine months of a ten year sentence is less than 8%, not very large, but a time to possibly correct their behavior and readjust to life on the outside..

Conclusion: it is a good policy. It will be worthwhile. However, I still would like to see a provision, no matter how small, to give the parole board discretionary power over the release. Absolute power or policy has a tendency to be abused and exploited for the wrong, unintended result.

I have had two very good conversations with Sandy Matheson, the Director of Victim Witness

Advocacy, who in my opinion was honest, forthcoming, and willing to provide these details surrounding this bill. Most of these corrections are based on my conversations with her. I hope I got it all correctly applied this time but I fear there is more to be revealed.

Again I apologize for the misinformation. The impact on the county is not a severe as I alluded to, but it is is still significant. People better than I must ferret out all the details, implementations and side effects of this bill.

The last word remains the same: vote.

Michael T Gilmore North Conway