WHEREAS, the jails have traditionally been operated by city, county, State, or Federal agents, and

WHEREAS, jail officials throughout this country are professional and proficient in discharging their duties, and

WHEREAS, responsibility and constitutional liability of jail operations rest squarely on the shoulders of the officials in charge of the jails and privatization does not relieve jail officials of responsibility or liability of private jail operations, and

WHEREAS, private providers often are not held to the same high standard of public disclosure as is government, thus diminishing the public’s ability to know how their jail is operating;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the American Jail Association that the Association shall go on record as reaffirming its opposition to the privatization of jails—city, State, county, or Federal.

Adopted by the American Jail Association Board of Directors on November 2, 1996, revising and reaffirming the Association’s original resolution of 1985.
Re-affirmed on May 3, 2008, by the AJA Board of Directors in Sacramento, California.