



AMERICAN JAIL ASSOCIATION
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SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WORKING IN OUR NATION'S JAILS

American Jail Association Resolution Standards and Inspections

- WHEREAS,** there is a disturbing trend among some States in the United States to eliminate or otherwise diminish the positive impact of State jail inspections and uniform standards for the operation of county and municipal jails for the protection of the constitutional rights of inmates and the personal protection of correctional officers and support staff, and
- WHEREAS,** the elimination of minimum State standards for the operation of local jails and State-controlled jail inspection programs could result in the possible loss of professional liability insurance for jail programs, diminution of jail medical services and food services, potential staff reductions, labor disputes, concerns over administrative liability, and a substantial increase in constitutional tort liability, and
- WHEREAS,** it is well established that most lawsuits are founded on constitutional issues in States that do not have statewide mandated jail standards and inspection programs, but rely on varying forms of self-regulation;
- THEREFORE BE
IT RESOLVED
THAT** the Board of Directors of the American Jail Association shall go on record in opposition to the elimination or diminution of existing State standards for the operation of local jails and the inspection of jails by State authorities.

*Adopted by the American Jail Association Board of Directors on May 1996.
Re-affirmed on May 3, 2008, by the AJA Board of Directors in Sacramento, California.*