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### **CHIEF CORONER RETHINK DOES NOT GO FAR ENOUGH**

Ken Clarke's U-turn on plans to scrap the position of Chief Coroner is a step in the right direction, says a not-for-profit campaign group.

But Government proposals to improve the archaic coroner service still fall short of the full-scale reforms which are badly needed, according to the not-for-profit Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL).

"This U-turn is a great first step," said APIL president David Bott.

"But it does not provide bereaved families with the comprehensive system which they need and deserve.

"If the Justice Secretary is looking to put things right, he must ensure that the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 is implemented in full."

Despite his about-turn, Ken Clarke has said that the Chief Coroner will not provide grieving families with a right of appeal against other coroners' decisions.

"Bereaved families deserve to have a coroner service in which they can have confidence," added Mr Bott.

"Without a right to appeal, public confidence in the system will inevitably be diminished.



“What is needed is an efficient and accessible appeals system which provides grieving relatives with the reassurance that, if they feel there has been an injustice, they are able to challenge it.”

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Notes to editors:

- APIL (Association of Personal Injury Lawyers) is a not-for-profit organisation whose members are dedicated to campaigning for improvements in the law to help people who are injured or become ill through no fault of their own.
- For more information, please the APIL press office on 0115 943 5409 or 0115 943 5416.
- Visit the association’s website at [www.apil.org.uk](http://www.apil.org.uk).