

Chairman Manning, Vice-Chair Rezabek, Ranking Member Johnson, and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Judy's Law.

On August 2, 2015, my daughter, Judy Malinowski was a victim of a heinous crime which has left her permanently disfigured. She was doused with gasoline and intentionally set on fire causing 3rd degree burns over 85% of her body.

Although she was not expected to survive 48 hours, she has spent the past 19+ months at the Ohio State Wexner Medical Center fighting every day to survive. She has been confined to a bed, unable to get out of bed or even to take a step.

-Her medical bills already exceed 11 million dollars and counting (mostly paid by Medicare/Medicaid). This massive cost has been largely absorbed by Medicaid and the State of Ohio, so think about that when considering the pushback against extended sentencing and building new prisons. Does the cost of extended sentences even come close to the cost of care and hospitalization for the countless victims of these repeat offenders like Michael Slager, the man who attacked Judy.

Judy spent the first seven months on a ventilator unconscious. She has undergone almost 60 surgeries, lost both of her ears, had most of her left hand amputated, and has no use of her left arm. She has lost complete vision in her left eye and has limited vision in her right eye. She still has open wounds over much of her body, and battles one infection after another. Her airways are damaged from the burns and she is now left with a permanent trachea. She requires oxygen at all times and has very limited speech. Judy will require hospitalization or full-time nursing care for as long as she survives with the state incurring the expenses. She has not been able to get out of bed for the last 7 months and most likely will never walk again. She has lost her ability to financially support herself or care for herself.

Most importantly, Judy's ability to be a mother to her two beautiful daughters has been taken from her. She will not be able to braid their hair, do their makeup, decorate their birthday cakes or take them to the beach. She will not have the ability to attend her daughter's high school graduations or weddings.

I have achieved a successful career over many years with one of the largest financial institutions in the country. With the challenges with caring for Judy and her children, I have lost the ability to maintain my career success and retirement is no longer an option.

The joy of being a grandparent has been ripped away as we now are raising Judy's two little girl and our role has turned to parenting. Michael Slager will be released from prison before Judy's children complete their schooling. Michael Slager received an 11-year sentence to a state prison. Many state-funded prison programs will allow him the opportunity to rebuild his life while he is incarcerated. Judy's opportunity to be a successful woman and mother has been taken from her for the rest of her life.

The scales of justice are not fair and balanced when the victim receives a life sentence of hospitalization and around the clock nursing, and her family, including two young daughters, is forever impacted by indescribable emotional trauma, the loss of their mother/daughter, huge financial cost, and the loss of a career, yet the assailant received just 11 years in prison and can then move on with his life. This is grossly unfair and unacceptable.

Please, do what is right in the eyes of true justice and pass Judy's Law, so that the unjust maximum state sentencing guidelines which applied in this case may be adjusted to reflect the massive irreparable damage to an innocent woman and her young daughters and family here, and in the name of future victims.