

Senate bill 182

Written Testimony

Bonnie Casey

6-6-21

Dear Chairman Manning, and other members of Senate Criminal Justice Committee:

My name is Bonnie Casey and I am a resident of Cuyahoga County. Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on Senate Bill 182

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Bonnie Casey, a retired CMSD educator for 36 yrs. I am deeply committed to the children of The Cleveland Public Schools who are grossly underserved, underrepresented, under mentored and uniformed. I strongly support Senate bill 182.

I am also including a letter to the editor from the Cleveland Plain Dealer that I wrote and that was recently published.

I am very concerned about how unnecessary pretrial detention harms people's lives because they're put at risk of losing their jobs, their homes, and even custody of their children. I am also upset about the wasted tax dollars spent by keeping people in jail who haven't even been tried. This money could help this deserving population which I formerly said : is very underserved, under-represented, under-mentored etc. They need support, guidance, information, training, schooling, instead of a revolving door in and out of jail. These people mostly black and brown need to be heard, recognized, respected, and not be sent to a box. Their individual stories must be validated. They need to be shown how to live fully and happily. These systemically racist practices must cease!!!

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote yes on this critically important bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Bonnie Casey

Fact-forward journalism on demand. Subscribe now for instant access.

Letters to the Editor

Bail reform helps us on our way to a fairer justice system in Cuyahoga County and Ohio

Updated May 26, 2021; Posted May 26, 2021

By Other Voices

What the people of Ohio need and require is a fair and equitable criminal justice system governed by rules that apply to everyone, taking into account individual needs and circumstances ("Bipartisan bail-reform proposal would yield an equitable system." by Jocelyn Rosnick, May 23). We thank Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor for advocating, with bipartisan support, for requiring the least restrictive measures, no cash bail, and persons released pretrial so they can better prepare with their attorneys; tend, feed and educate their children; go to their jobs and pay their bills. In other words, so they can be free to live their lives as the wealthy have always been allowed to do after paying their way out.

It's time for our Black citizens and other citizens of color in Cuyahoga County to feel seen, looked at in their eyes, heard, respected for their stories and given a chance to walk away from that plantation mentality of being violently controlled, locked up and stigmatized.

Bonnie Casey,

Mayfield Village

Note to readers: if you purchase something through one of our affiliate links we may earn a commission.