

**Proponent Testimony House Bill 221 - Written Only**  
**House Criminal Justice Committee**  
**5/12/2024**

**Adam Barton**  
**Student, NKU School of Social Work**

Chair Abrams, Vice Chair Williams, Ranking Member Brown, and members of the Criminal Justice Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Adam Thomas Barton. I am in the Master of Social Work program at Northern Kentucky University and resident of Union Township, Clermont County, Ohio.

I am writing in proponent testimony for HB 221. I firmly believe we should expand postconviction access to DNA evidence which shows actual innocence. I believe this legislation is absolutely necessary because what has happened to Anthony Apanovitch is a travesty of justice. No person who has been exonerated by DNA evidence should be sent back to death row because of a technicality. That is not who we are as a people.

In the interests of justice, I urge you to demonstrate your humanity today by voting YES on this bill.

Thank you for your time. God bless America.

Kindly,

Adam Barton