

Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**From:**

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**To:**

The Finance Committee on Health and Human Services  
Testimony to Support Need Funding in the Challenged Communities of Ohio  
(In other for Ohio to Flourish)

AsSalaam, Greetings, and Salutations,  
Chairperson Caruthers, Ranking Member Liston, and the other esteemed leaders of this "Finance Committee on Health and Human Services".

My name is Rukiye Z. Abdul-Mutakallim. I am honored to be a member of "Noble Organization", Between the Waters (BTW), Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth (CFSY), Tri-Chair of Ohio Poor People Campaign (OHPPC), a board member of Ohioans to Stop Executions (OTSE), and the CEO & Founder of The Musketeer Association, just to name a few entities in this fight for "inalienable rights" for all creation.

I was born in this United States in servitude, which was continuing (wrongful laws in place) until the Civil Rights Movement took place. This rightful action brought about even the animal rights we have in this country today. When the Civil Rights became to prime focus, our Nation began to strive, grow, and became a beacon of hope for people across our nation and the globe.

Today however, we are faced with a pandemic of violence, crime, poverty, homelessness, human trafficking, illiteracy, high birth mortality, suicide (4-times that of all homicides), diabetes in young children, obesity, health crisis that is putting a strain on our health system (which is failing), and an eco-system that is suffering from the man-made trauma we are inflecting upon it.

The health of a nation does not come from the people who are in positions to lead that nation, but on the healthiness of the people who are being lead. If, the-majority-of-the-people of this nation is unhealthy, has a lack of humane services (core methodologies), a standard of life that does not promote perpetuity, prosperity, resiliency, and healing from traumatizing situations, then that nation and its governing body is unhealthy. Showing signs of decade and implosion, which leads to the demises of a civilization from within.

History is repleted with truthful facts of how nations and civilizations brought about their own doom neglecting the "inalienable rights" of even the most challenging people in its society.

Take for example, in a renowned book in mankind's history of a people who were treated unjustly, oppressed, poorly educated, suppressed, fed substandard nutrition, mass incarceration, traumatization from conception to end of live, used as a commodity for the elitist of that society, and man-made laws structured in such a manner that kept the majority of those people in that substandard living arena for generations, after generations, after generations. All because those who saw themselves superior, privilege, or chosen based on a system set in place to limit or withhold the "innate law" that all within a society must be treated fairly, justly, and provided with the same basic opportunities to "thrive" no matter which side of the "track" they were born on. The ruins of that civilization can even be seen today in the eastern part of Africa.

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If, you have doubts about that story, then you can look to later times such as Rome, Greece, Italy, Germany, England, and countless others. All of those passed societies committed the same “sin”, the neglect of the “inalienable rights” of all the people of their nation, especially the challenged communities that are greatly in need of “core services”.

Though I could go on, I chose to leave you with the following absolute “Innate Truths” and pledge from me:

1. No one gets to chose where they are born, nor the family they are born into. Those who maybe born in a “less” challenging arena, filled with “inalienable rights” made readily available, was granted a favor from The Creator, and that favor must be repaid by helping those who are born in a more challenging arena (that very well, could have been you). Nor should you put in place laws that deny those “inalienable rights” or deny funding to methodologies that will help those communities flourish.
2. “Funding the poor, the needy, the challenged, the children, etc. is a duty imposed by The Almighty...” --- When that duty is enacted, a society is raised to greatness. In that group, rest persons who may invent or discover a cure that could save your life or the life of someone you love.
3. It is incumbent upon a governing body to pass laws that promotes actions that will raise communities up, not down into more despair and hopelessness, less that society will cease to be civilized!
4. “...What you do to the less of me, you do to me!”
5. This is my pledge to all of life on this earth:  
 “I pledge to stand forth as a constant reminder to myself and others to bring light, beauty, and truth. To unify, honor and ignite a beacon of hope and goodwill across our neighborhoods, our communities, our cities, and our nation. Wherever there is despair, hopelessness, oppression, fear, injustice, or humiliation. I will be that lighthouse directing all toward safety and justice until acts of tyranny reign no more; not even for one of us --- One for All and All for One”!

I’m now opened for any questions you wish to ask me and I give much thanks to The Almighty for your attention and time.