

Senate Judiciary Committee
Senate Bill 101
Written Testimony Only

Barbara Hornbeek

November 13, 2023

Dear Chairman Manning, Vice Chair Reynolds, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Barbara Hornbeek. I reside in Elyria in Lorain County with Senator Manning as my direct representative. Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on Ohio Senate Bill 101.

I have been involved in trying to repeal the death penalty for many years. I have written letters to the editor, demonstrated, held vigils for victims and even corresponded to death row inmates. I have stuck with it this long, because I feel that deep down, to the basics, the use of the death penalty is biased, is not an adherent to violent crime and most of all, has been applied to innocent people.

In my correspondence with death row inmates, many express remorse for their actions. And some proclaim their innocence. I have attended lectures of at least 3 different people, including Joe Ambrosio, who were innocent and sentenced to die. Those 3 were saved, but only with exceptional help from outside sources. What about those still on death row who did not commit the crime? What about men and women in the future, that might meet the same fate?

The time is now, to finally repeal the death penalty. This is within our grasp. Please consider my testimony and vote yes on SB 101. Thank you for listening to my views.

Barbara Hornbeek