WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 12/14/20  Name: Katharine Beutner
Are you representing: Yourself  Organization
Organization (If Applicable):
Position/Title:
City: Cleveland Heights  State: OH  Zip: 44118
Best Contact Telephone: 512-289-8904  Email: katharine.b@gmail.com
Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes
Business before the committee
Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): SB 256
Specific Issue: Possibility of parole for juveniles
Are you testifying as a: X Proponent  Opponent  Interested Party
Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes  No
(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair’s office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair’s staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? N/A

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

I am writing in strong support of SB 256. No Ohio child should ever be incarcerated without possibility of parole.

I teach college students. Even when they are 17-22, it’s clear to me how malleable the minds of young adults are—how much they can learn and change. Criminal justice systems outside the US clearly understand this, too. No other country in the world sentences children to life in prison with no chance of parole. This bill doesn’t REQUIRE parole—it requires only the possibility, the chance for a hearing. It does not increase any danger to society. It makes justice possible. I ask that you consider my testimony and vote in support of SB 256.

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.