

Chair LaRe, Vice Chair Swearingen and Ranking Member Leland,
Thank you for allowing me to address the House Criminal
Justice committee.

I am not going to spend much of my time sharing with you all
the horrific details of the tragedy that occurred. The story of
what happened to mine and my husband Toby's daughter
Reagan. I know is not new news to any of you. We have been
very public with our story and while that has been very painful
and difficult, there has been a purpose for it. Reagan's life
mattered and so do the lives of all the other innocent victims of
violence. I refuse to let violence and evil be the defining legacy
of her short time here on earth.

Our love for Reagan and for wanting to help others is the fuel
that drives us, along with our faith, to have the courage and
strength to forge forward. We are now the voice for her life and
all those lives who were also tragically lost before and after her.
Her death was preventable, and our family made a vow very
soon after learning all the details of the multiple failures of the
judicial system, ODRC, Adult Parole Authority and Transitional
Housing in the state of Ohio, that we would pursue positive
change to what currently exists and would not stop until we are
successful.

Together we have made significant change and progress with
the passing of the first portion of the Reagan Tokes Act/Senate
Bill 201 and the way it changed indefinite sentencing. Many of
you were part of that change and I thank you for that. For those
of you who are now just joining the push, I hope we can count
on your support. We have improved only half the equation
from our efforts so far, as phase one, without phase two is

incomplete and doesn't close the circle of failure. There is still work to be done to pass House Bill 166 to bring the Reagan Tokes Act to full fruition. Ankle monitors need to be monitored in real time and have immediate consequences for violations. Parole officers need a reduction in case load, so those who are released are being properly monitored by them and don't continue to slip thru the cracks.

The technology exists to effectively monitor ankle devices in real time, and it is beyond time that this is enacted. The general assumption from the public, whose taxpayer dollars fund this program, is that these devices are a preventative measure and are keeping them safe from those released who are intent on still doing evil. We all know this is not true and their money is going towards a failing program that is providing a false sense of security. The money for this program might as well be being thrown out the window because as this program currently exists, it is pointless. I know this to be true because the person who took our daughter from us had several documented ankle monitor violations which should have led to his reincarceration. Instead, nothing was done, there were no consequences and he continued to inflict violence and terror into the community and ultimately took our daughter from us in the vilest way. Do you have any idea what we go through daily and will for the rest of our lives, knowing that what happened to our daughter was completely preventable and she lost her life because this monster, the ODRC, the Adult Parole Authority and the Transitional Housing Program failed? They all had a level of responsibility for this violent offender and they all failed. If indefinite sentencing was in place previously, she would still be

with us. If ankle monitoring was done in real time, she would still be with us. If parole officers could effectively monitor and manage their caseload, she would still be with us. If the transitional housing program was staffed accordingly with a checks and balance system, she would still be with us. If, if, if, enough with the if's, it is time to ACT.

I am sure many of you have mothers, wives, daughters, nieces or important females in your life and you could never imagine having the system fail them in the way it did Reagan-especially not when you are sitting in a position of power to do something about it.

I implore you to get behind this second phase of the Reagan Tokes Act and vote it into law swiftly. It literally is a matter of life and death and how many more lives must be lost before appropriate action, that is long overdue, is taken? Now is the time for the state of Ohio and its elected officials to step and up be a leader for change that is proactive and show the rest of the country what it means to serve and protect the public. Thank you for your time.