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Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee
Senate Building, Room 050
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

-In Support Of S.J.R.1-
Prohibit Involuntary Servitude as Punishment for Crime

Dear Members of the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee,

I submit written testimony today to please ask the committee to please vote yes on SJR1. It is 2021, and i'm sure this day in age people of the state would all be in agreeance that there should be NO SLAVERY PERIOD, yet our constitution still carries an exception clause that proves slavery was never abolished in all forms.

No one, regardless, should be enslaved for any reason. As a former enslaved individual myself, I have witnessed first hand how many incarcerated people suffer just as my ancestors did. Abused, neglected, and forced to perform labor making pennies on the dollar. ALL working human beings should be afforded a livable wage. While commissary, phone calls, etc cost all incarcerated individuals, their wages don't even cover half the cost of living for necessities while being incarcerated. Prices doubled on toothpaste, deodorant, hygiene, etc; leaving our family to suffer to pay because the slaves in the penal industry aren't capable even WITH wages they earn while being a slave to the state.

Due to the recent events happening around the country, it's only right Ohio does the right thing and address the 13th amendment in our constitution. There shall be no slavery or involuntary servitude period. There is no good reason why anyone who isn't racist should vote no on this important resolution.

I hope we have the committee's support. I encourage every one of you to vote yes on the passing of SJR1!



Derrick Miles Sr.