What is right, is right. But what is wrong, is wrong. Slavery in any form is just downright wrong, immoral, inhumane and unconstitutional. We could argue the facts of what veterans did back in the 1800's for our African American ancestors, however, the government found a way to change the narrative and created the exception clause. Ohio has 48,000 human beings enslaved to the state- many held hostage at the discretion of the Adult Parole Board- they'll forever be enslaved til death by incarceration. They are making pennies on the dollar for jobs they aren't even given upon release. Every incarcerated person has a 'job title' regardless if they work or not. Every one of them receives state pay whether they work or not. HOWEVER, the 17 dollars a month doesn't even cover hygiene for the week or calls to their families for a week. Incarcerated individuals' families suffer as well.

Free-ish since Junteenth 1885- but can we be FREE of ALL forms of slavery in 202? Let's get it done- there shall be NONE Ohio. #EndTheExceptionInOH #FreeThe13th #NoAcception #WeThePeopleSayNoToSlavery

I thank you for listening and I hope we have your support in SJR1. For everyone- it should be a YES!

Manna Kenney

Sincerely,

Jeanna Kenney
EPIC President



Jeanna Kenney President

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15 June 2021

Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee

Senate Building Room 050 1 Capitol Square Columbus, Ohio 43215

Senate Joint Resolution 1- Proponent Testimony- Prohibiting Involuntary Servitude as a punishment for crime.

Dear Chairman Manning, Vice Chair Ron McColley and all members of the Ohio Senate Judiciary,

My name is Jeanna Kenney- the President of EPIC- Ensuring Parole for Incarcerated Citizens, a non profit 501 c3 here in Ohio, as well as a state organizer for Abolish Slavery National Network. I am disappointed I couldn't be there in person to testify how important this legislation was to me. However, I am blessed with the opportunity to still enjoy my son's graduation as well as voice my matter in SJR1 in written form.

I have been working with some many great people for years who have taught me so much about this movement in Freeing the 13th as a WHOLE and once and for ALL, that I myself became more involved in educating others that slavery still existed! Many people of America and across the world are unaware that many state constitutions in 'The Land of the Not so Free', as well as federally, the 13th amendment reads as it does and that the exception clause still enslaves human beings. Slavery in 2021 still exists and it's time for us to address it. Until then peace and equality won't exist.

The first step in any type of reform should have been and should be addressing the 13th amendment and it should read no slavery period. I believe 90% of all citizens would agree. I truly hope the committee votes yes to passing SJR1 and leaving the final decision up to The People of Ohio to exercise our God given rights to bring our constitution up to date and make it fair for all!

Today, the state of California voted to pass their legislation to amend the exception clause. Ohio should do the same. 5 states have completely abolished slavery once and for ALL in any form. I am almost positive our state would never want to be portrayed as a slave state due to legislation dying at the hands of legislators. A vote NO to SJR1 is a vote YES to SLAVERY! I can almost guarantee NO ONE is accepting of slavery which is why I am encouraging all of you to pass SJR1 and let the people of the state and for the movement do the work necessary so the citizens of Ohio have the final say-WE SAY NO TO SLAVERY HOW ABOUT YOU?