Proponent Testimony House Bill 221 - Written Only House Criminal Justice Committee 5/12/2024

MacKenzie Seaton-Todd Citizen of Ohio

Chair Abrams, Vice Chair Williams, Ranking Member Brown, and members of the Criminal Justice Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is MacKenzie Seaton-Todd and I have lived over 20 years in Ohio, and am currently an elementary school teacher. I feel strongly about ensuring Ohio has a fair criminal justice system.

I am writing in proponent testimony for HB 221. I believe we should expand postconviction access to DNA evidence which shows actual innocence. I find it extremely disturbing that there are innocent people who have been wrongfully on death row for any amount of time, let alone 20+ years. We should let people access evidence that proves their innocence, especially in matters of life and death.

I urge you to vote yes on this bill.

Thank you. I'm happy to answer any questions.

MacKenzie Seaton-Todd