

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: October 9, 2023

Name: Bruce H. Freeman

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): _____

Position/Title: Self

Address: 1273 Jefferson Avenue

City: Akron State: Ohio Zip: 44313

Best Contact Telephone: 330-858-6241 Email: freeman.bruce@gmail.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 259

Specific Issue: Abolish the Death Penalty

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Are you testifying: In-Person Written-Only

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? NA

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

Sixty-four years ago, the **1958 General Convention of the Episcopal Church** passed a Resolution to formally **oppose the Death Penalty in all cases**. This Resolution was reintroduced by a Resolution at the 1979 General Convention affirming opposition to the death penalty and charging *all dioceses* to work toward eliminating the death penalty. Subsequent resolutions in 1991, 2000, 2015, and 2018 have been adopted by the Episcopal Church.

My faith clearly guides me to oppose the death penalty in all cases. For this reason, and all the additional supporting reasons provided to the Committee, I ask that House Bill 259 be approved in tandem with Senate Bill 101 subsequent to respective committees support.

Thank you,

Bruce Freeman

Akron, Ohio

330-858-6241

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.