

Testimony of Morgan Reece
President Falcons for Life, Bowling Green State University
Before the House Finance Committee, October 11, 2023
In Support of HB 259 to Repeal the Death Penalty
Sponsored by State Representatives Jean Schmidt and Adam Miller

Chairman Edwards, Vice Chair LaRe, Ranking Member Sweeney, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of House Bill 259 to end Ohio's death penalty.

I am Morgan Reece, and I am a fourth-year Honors student at Bowling Green State University, double-specializing in Supply Chain Management and Business Analytics. I'm also a Student Ambassador for the Schmidthorst College of Business. And I am the Founder and President of Falcons for Life, which is BGSU's chapter of Students for Life. I am testifying today in my individual capacity and as a person who strongly believes in and advocates for the sanctity of life from conception to natural death.

I came to my pro-life beliefs after much research and soul searching the summer before my senior year in high school. Since then, I have been very active in the pro-life movement. Along with being the president of Falcons for Life, I am also the Communications Director for the University of Toledo Students for Life group, a William Wilberforce Fellow with Students for Life, and a canvasser for Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America and Protect Women Ohio.

I ask you today to move swiftly to pass House Bill 259 ending the death penalty in Ohio. Valuing and honoring life until natural death is just as important as valuing and honoring life from conception, and it is time that Ohio take a stand by ending a policy and practice that allows the government to take a human life.

Given that we can protect our communities by imposing life in prison sentences to be served in maximum security facilities, there is no possible justification for the government taking a human life.

For these reasons I urge you to vote for House Bill 259 to end Ohio's death penalty.