

Dear Chairman Manning, Vice Chair Reynolds, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Bruce Freeman and I am a resident of Akron. Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on Ohio Senate Bill 101.

Sixty-four years ago, the **1958 General Convention of the Episcopal Church USA** 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 many additional supporting reasons being provided to the Judiciary Committee, I ask that Senate Bill 101 be approved in tandem with House Bill 259 subsequent to respective committees support.

Thank you,

Bruce Freeman

Akron, Ohio