

Senate Judiciary Committee
Senate Bill 101
Written Testimony Only

SHARON S. HARRIS
13 November 2023

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

My name is Sharon S. Harris and I am a resident of Hamilton County. Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent written testimony for Senate Bill 101.

While there are many statistics supporting why the death penalty is a failed system (costs incurred, racial disparity, not a deterrent, etc.), for me, the two most important reasons for abolishing the death penalty are:

- the idea that taking a life in response to someone who has taken a life is inane (did you know the death certificate of executed persons cites 'homicide' as the manner of death?) and,
- the risk of executing an innocent person.

I do not understand how one human can take the life of another and the institution of capital punishment continues this heinous act into a cycle of violence.

I am hoping you receive many letter in support of Senate Bill 101 and as such, I will keep my letter short. Thank you for reading my proponent testimony and for the opportunity to testify in a written format.

I humbly ask you to vote yes on Senate Bill 101, a bill critical to Ohio and its people. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely yours,

Sharon S. Harris