

11/12/2023

Ethan Nichols

Proponent testimony- SB 101

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

My name is Ethan Nichols, and I am a resident of Cincinnati, Ohio. Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on Ohio Senate Bill 101.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation. The death penalty is not only a moral issue, it is also an economic one.

Since 1973, more than 195 death row inmates have been fully exonerated. Ohio is home to 11 of said exonerees. For every five people Ohio has executed, one has been found innocent. This is a tragic mistake that, quite literally, costs lives.

But this issue goes beyond that. It costs the State of Ohio \$128 million to \$384 million to run a death penalty trial. Why are we wasting that much taxpayer money on taking the lives of Ohioans- potentially innocent Ohioans, at that?

This legislation also has broad popular support. A recent poll of Ohioans by The Tarrance Group showed that 59% supported replacing the death penalty with life without parole.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony alongside this vitally important legislation. I urge you to vote in favor of SB 101.

Yours,

Ethan Nichols