

Senate Judiciary Committee
Senate Bill 101
Written Testimony Only

Mrs. Rebekah J. Nilges
6980 Wilson Mills
Gates Mills, Ohio 44040

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

My name is Rebekah Nilges and I am a resident of Gates Mills/Mayfield Village in Cuyahoga County. Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on Ohio Senate Bill 101.

I am firmly persuaded that Ohio should repeal the death penalty for several reasons. The wrongful conviction rate of something that you cannot reverse is an unthinkable number. Are you comfortable allowing prosecutor's offices to continue using this system despite the decades of evidence of error, misconduct, and wrongful death sentences?

Additionally, putting someone to death is a horrible use of taxpayer dollars, especially again considering the percentage of wrongful convictions. The thought that there is a belief that someone's life should be put in the hands of human beings is an insane thing. It brings us into playing a role that we have no business with. No one person, even a jury or judge, has the right to decide if someone's life is worth it or not. Everyone, no matter the crime they committed, is worthy of having a life.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote yes on this critically important bill. Thank you.

Rebekah J. Nilges