

Date:

Dear Representative

I am a registered voter in your district, and I am writing to you to ask that you support HB2135 –Parole Expansion for Life Sentences, introduced by Representative Jason Dawkins.

This bill will enable parole opportunities for all people in Pennsylvania, including people serving life sentences after 15 years of time served. It does not guarantee release from prison to anyone, but merely grants everyone the right to prove that they are deserving of release, a right currently denied to the over 5,200 people serving life sentences in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania is one of only six states that does not grant parole opportunities to *any* lifers. Corrections is a huge line item in our state budget, costing over \$2 billion a year; we are investing more in prisons than we are in schools. Moreover, studies have clearly shown that as a person ages, their likelihood of recidivism continues to decrease, and drops precipitously after the age of 50. PA has an ever-increasing population of aging lifers, many of whom are reformed and extremely unlikely to recidivate.

We are keeping a great number of people who are not a threat to public safety imprisoned until their deaths, at great cost to our state coffers and our communities.

Please support HB2135--become a co-sponsor, vote Yes on the bill, and help Pennsylvania become smart on crime.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

---

Signature

---

Name Printed

---

Address