

Parole for Lifers in Pennsylvania

Feb 3, 2017, 10:00am:

Hi, I want to talk about parole for lifers. If you agree with me, I ask for your help. I ask that you go on line, write a message in support of this and send a mass e-mail to all of the Pa State Reps that I list. I will be brief. Pa is 1 of 6 states that do not allow lifers any chance at parole. The Pa Dept. Of Corrections budget is over \$2 billion each year. We have over 50,000 prisoners and over 5,500 lifers. There are men & women in here who have been model prisoners for over 30+ years. They are the definition of rehabilitated. Let me use 1 man, Richard Purcell, 18/19 yrs old, shot & killed the man who was having sex with his wife. Rich is in his mid/late 50's now. Model prisoner, amazing painter (can paint portraits), a very well liked prisoner and a very nice guy. Just a little old man who likes to paint in here. There are some people who have been rehabilitated, changed, allow these men to redeem themselves, allow them a chance to go home and die in their own bed. Let them be reunited with their family one last time. I want to be redeemed one day but I am not there yet. But some men are. How old must we be in order to get another chance? Why do most states allow it but just 6 don't? If we all want to be treated equally, if want our laws the same, why is this not the same as the majority of the country? Money is normally the driving factor in when a prison releases someone, the parole board doesn't care about the crimes, it always boils down to money. But when is enough enough? When do we finally say, this man (or woman, we will not forget our sister lifers) has changed, they did 30+ years, lets give them another chance.

Right now, there is a parole for lifers push in my state. A state representative came up with a bill that would allow parole for lifers, if the parole board determines that they earned it. It doesn't mean people will automatically just get out. It means they have a chance to be reviewed, to be heard. Just a chance to be listened to. So I ask you again, can compassion win out? Will free people use their compassion to give some deserving men & women a 2nd chance? If you believe so, I ask that you send 1 mass e-mail to the e-mails that I provide at the end of this. Thats all I ask, send an e-mail expressing your support for H.B.135, Parole for Lifers. If you want to learn more about the bill, I will include the Name & # of the author of the bill. I thank you for listening and if you have any questions, please contact me. Gotta run & call my mom, take care, please read on & get back to me. God Bless, ciao.

2/4/17: Today I ran for the Vice President spot in the Lifers Organization. I gave my speech and won the vote 69-43. I hope to make great strides. Anyone out there who is willing to help, please reach out to me. I can't do this alone. I need your help. Any questions about this bill, Please reach out to State Rep. Jason Dawkins @ 215-744-7901, e-mail: jdawkins@pahouse.net