

March 9, 2011

Good Afternoon Members of this Committee.

My name is Luz Sullivan. I come in favor of the bill #6539.

You see for the past 3 years I have come before you and I have testified about the importance of passing this sentence modification bill. I have a husband who has been incarcerated for the past 14 years, because he was given a 28 years sentence for drug related charges, which I find extremely harsh, because he did not hurt anyone, or kill anyone, thank God. The court gave him 14 years to run consecutive with another 145 years instead of running concurrent. My husband has applied for a sentence modification to the State Attorneys Office twice.

The first time he applied, which was approximately 5 years ago we was denied. The second time he apply was 4 years ago 1 year after he was denied, at that time the State Attorney was James Thomas who did not approve it or denied it, he kept the case pending, well a little after that, James resign, the new State Attorney that took over his position is Gail Hardy. I have contacted her office several times, including writing to her, and never got a response. I hired two different attorneys to this case they had no luck in getting a response from her. Now the last attorney I hired after chasing her for a whole year. He was able to get a meeting with her 4 months ago, and he tells me she still have not made a decision on the case yet.

I also had a meeting with her boss, Chief State Attorney Kevin Kane 1 year ago and that did not lead me anywhere - nothing has been accomplished.

So now I come to you to ask you please pass this sentence modification bill, so we do not have to deal with the State Attorneys Office anymore, instead let the court and the judges make the decision and have control of all sentence modification cases.

I thank you for your time and consideration towards bill #6539.