

MARCH 7, 2011

TO: THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, STATE LEGISLATURE OF CONNECTICUT
CHAIRMEN SEN. COLEMAN, REP. FOX, VICE CHAIRS, RANKING MEMBERS AND MEMBERS

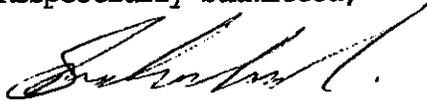
RE: S.B. 1035 - (RAISED) AN ACT REPEALING THE DEATH PENALTY.

Please do not repeal the Death Penalty for the following reasons:

1. Capital Punishment is a rare and viable function of government that serves as a deterrent to heinous and rare horrific crimes against society.
2. Without this deterrence to murder, convicted felons serving life imprisonment have nothing to lose by murdering a prison guard or official. We have already seen this occurrence take place.
3. Yes, there has been a racial imbalance in Capital cases, but this will not be corrected by eliminating the death penalty. To correct this injustice, we need to look deeper into society to identify the causes.
4. Yes, the appeals process does create further suffering and trauma for victims' families. This will not be corrected by nullifying the Death Penalty. The appeals process will still be in place even for life imprisonment without parole, and unless the process is reformed there will not be much change.
5. It has been stated, "It is wrong for the state to take a life" (Hartford Courant Editorial). What principle is this based on? Laws are made to be enforced and carried out; not to be set aside.
6. Certainly murder is evil. "Rulers are not to be a terror to a good work, but to an evil one". (Romans 13. v. 3.) Such has been the standard in our State and Nation and we should uphold these standards and principles. Why weaken what is right and just after all these years.

Thank you for your indulgence to read this appeal.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce Macdonald

8 Sanrico Drive
Manchester, CT 06042

Tel# 860 533 0428