

Written Testimony: HB 6581 and SB 1062

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Robert Durant and I am writing on behalf of my brother, Marcus Price. I raised Marcus from childhood to adulthood. And, I am not ashamed to say that I am still raising him, today. I am no stranger to the system. I have paid for my mistake and given the opportunity I have evolved into the model citizen that stands before you. Not all decisions made during Marcus' life were positive, but who isn't guilty of such. Since Marcus has been incarcerated, he did not partake in high school dances, proms, graduation, sports, or life and activities on a college campus. Marcus has been incarcerated for about fifteen (15) years, including the youthful years where one's mind should be molded by love, life, and education. Being incarcerated, I have witnessed my brother, Marcus grow from a boy to a man by a gained knowledge of structure, authority, continuity, patience, wisdom and understanding. Because of this, Marcus has only made positive accomplishments in his life. Marcus has obtained a GED, he is a model inmate where he has matured mentally, physical and emotionally. This has also aided in him maintaining his marriage. That's more than many of us have attempted in our adult lives. Marcus has a strong family unit - a foundation of family, prayer, love, strength and encouragement. And, when Marcus comes home he will continue to have this same family to support him, to assure that he does not regress. Marcus has said he learned his lesson, he has displayed he learned his lesson and I know he has learned his lesson. Marcus has evolved in a positive sense; he just needs the opportunity to implement it. I ask that you accept Marcus' time served as full repayment for any and all mistakes. And, allow Marcus the opportunity to prove that he has been rehabilitated and put him on the path of becoming a model citizen. Everyone deserves a second chance; let this be Marcus' second chance.

Thank You

Robert Durant