

Loretta Mcpherson

Written Testimony in Support of H.B. #5221

An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission Regarding Lengthy Sentences for Crimes Committed by a Child or Youth and the Sentencing of a Child or Youth Convicted of Certain Felony Offenses

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Loretta Mcpherson, and I support bill 5221.

To whom it may concern, I am writing this letter on behalf of my son James Griffin #245391 who has been in jail since the age of fifteen- he is now thirty-four. I watch my son grow into a mature young man. I watch him change his life. He has become a model citizen in jail and I believe that he should be given a chance to come home. I know firsthand that he was a victim of his environment, plagued by mental and physical abuse. He has never been on a date, gone to a prom , never had a chance to fall in love. He watch me his mother being addicted to drugs. With him, his brother, and sister with nothing to eat at times. With no one to encourage him to do better. I believe that if reform and rehabilitation is to work then he must be given a chance to demonstrate the change outside of prison.

Thank you.