

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,



Address:

Rianna Johnson-Lewy

68 High Street  
New Haven, CT 06520

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

 Kenneth Jackson

Address:

Forum Hall      New Haven Connecticut  
(380 College St)

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,



Isabel McLough

Address:

68 High Street,

New Haven, CT 06511

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

  
Christopher Valdes

Address:

350 College Street  
New Haven, Connecticut

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

 Danielle Curran

Address:

68 High Street  
New Haven, CT 06520

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Becca Steinberg	205 Elm St, New Haven CT 06511
-----------------	--------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Becky Perre	68 High St
-------------	------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

ABHEDY MITRA	Old Campus, LA-12
--------------	-------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Rahul Singh	242 EIM ST
-------------	------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Evan Chen	261 Mark Street
-----------	-----------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Achutha Raman	505 College St, New Haven 06511
---------------	---------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Peter Cohen	31 High Street, New Haven 06510
-------------	---------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Kate Miller	345 Tenye St New Haven CT 06514
-------------	---------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Sammy Bensinger	74 High St. New Haven, CT 06511
-----------------	---------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Deanna Brandell	189 Elm St., New Haven, CT, 06511
-----------------	-----------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Patrick Murray	275 Park St, New Haven CT, 06511
----------------	----------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Everett Johnson	269 Park St, New Haven CT 06511
-----------------	---------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Joseph Cornett (add to mail list!)	<del>HDA</del> 330 College St, New Haven, CT 06511
------------------------------------	--

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Isabelle Taff	505 College St, New Haven CT 06511
---------------	------------------------------------

06511

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Salaw A. Sraikh	189 Elm St, New Haven, 06511
-----------------	------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Russell Hay	189 Elm St, New Haven, 06511
-------------	------------------------------

Signed,

Name	Address
Allison Miller	PO Box 200709, New Haven, CT 06520
Anita Felton	210 Dwight St, New Haven CT 06511
Jagajit Jais	P.O. Box 203473
Philipp Arnold	261 Park St, New Haven
Se Hyun Han	P.O. Box 205150, New Haven, CT
Dan Rabinow	P.O. Box 203577, New Haven, CT
Diana Rosen	261 Park St, New Haven, CT
Catherine Snow	PO Box 203242, New Haven, CT
Indra Guddas	PO Box 203389, New Haven, CT
Suyash Bhagwat	PO Box 201326, New Haven, CT

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Allison Miller	PO Box 208709, Meriden, CT 06460
----------------	-------------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Suyash Bhagwat

Po Box 201326 New Haven, CT

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Frida Guedes

PO Box 203389 New Haven, CT

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Catherine Snow

PO BOX 203242 New Haven, CT

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Diana Rosen	261 Park St. New Haven, CT
-------------	----------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Dan Pathman	PO Box 203577 New Haven, CT
-------------	-----------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Jangai Jap	PIB 203473
------------	------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Phillip Arnoldt	261 Park St. New Haven
-----------------	------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

Se Hyun Han	P.O. Box 205150 New Haven, CT
-------------	-------------------------------

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

<i>Olivia Feldman</i>	<i>216 Dwight St, New Haven CT 06514</i>
-----------------------	--

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,

Address:

48 671 Street

February 27, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am a student in Connecticut and I am writing this letter to request that the Connecticut General Assembly immediately pass H.B. No. 5221 to reform juvenile justice and sentencing. It is immoral, unwise, and now unconstitutional for Connecticut to allow juveniles to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for crimes committed under the age of 18, and it is time for Connecticut to change these outdated laws.

Juvenile sentencing in Connecticut under current law fails to acknowledge the "mitigating qualities of youth" that the Supreme Court has ruled we must consider in sentencing children. These qualities include greater capacities for self-improvement and underdeveloped brains. Furthermore, many of the juveniles who have gone through the juvenile justice system have been subjected to poverty, violence, and peer pressure. This socioeconomic element is only compounded by the fact that minorities are overrepresented in Connecticut's prisons and juvenile detention centers with 92% of juvenile offenders serving 50 or more years identifying as African American or Hispanic.

The Connecticut Sentencing Commission's recommended legislation would promote the change we need in juvenile sentencing. The proposal prohibits mandatory life sentences without parole for juvenile offenders. Passing this bill would therefore bring Connecticut into compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling, but more importantly, it's the right thing to do, providing overdue recognition of juvenile offenders' right to a second chance. Even if some offenders shouldn't receive parole, it is critical that juveniles receive special consideration within our justice system, which is why they should all at least be eligible for a parole hearing.

As a forward-looking state, Connecticut should be a national trailblazer and show the rest of the nation the many benefits of improved laws concerning juvenile justice. The revision of our existing laws can prove that Connecticut understands the nuances and careful attention needed in juvenile sentencing efforts. Our state needs to rededicate itself to the ideals of juvenile justice. By doing this, we once again can become a national leader and stand at the forefront of American justice.

Sincerely,



Address:

68 High St  
New Haven, CT 06511

Signed,

Name	Address
Sudae A Swalk	189 Elm St, New Haven, 06511
Russell Hay	189 Elm St, New Haven, 06511
Joseph Cornett (add to mail list!)	<del>189</del> 330 College St, New Haven, 06511
Everett Johnson	267 Park St, New Haven CT 06511
Patrice Murray	225 Park St, New Haven, CT, 06511
Deanna Brandell	189 Elm St., New Haven <sup>CT</sup> , 06511
Sammy Bunsinger	74 High St. New Haven, CT 06511
Kate Miller	345 Tenye St, New Haven CT 06511
Peter Cohen	31 High Street, New Haven 06510
Achutha Raman	505 College St, New Haven 06511
Evan Chen	261 Park Street
Zahvi Singh	242 Elm St
ABHIJAY MITRA	Old Campus, LA12
Bechr Perre	68 High St
Becca Steinberg	205 Elm St, New Haven CT 06511
Isabelle Taft	505 College St, New Haven CT 06511

06511