



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHERYL ADELSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-442-3872	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL		TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR, JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL	
ADDRESS: 12 MILLSTONE CAMPUS DRIVE			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63146
EMAIL: cadelstein@jcrctl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 11:24 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Please accept this written testimony on behalf of the Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis in support of House Bill 277. HB 277 would allow a chance at parole for a limited number of Missouri prisoners, based on age. This is especially important during this time of COVID because elderly people are more likely to die from COVID-19. The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), guided by Jewish values, advocates, educates, collaborates, and mobilizes action on issues important to the Jewish community, 60,000 strong in St. Louis. We are committed to pursuing religious tolerance, civic discourse, and social justice in St. Louis and beyond. Jews have a deeply held belief in teshuva, loosely translated as change/turning, in other words, the possibility of rehabilitation and redemption. As stated in Ezekiel, "I have not pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live." (33:11) The JCRC reaffirms the Biblical precept that people who offend are human beings, capable of reshaping their lives and worthy of an opportunity to repent and reenter society. Missouri's prisons are overcrowded and the choice today is to build more prisons, at tremendous expense, or change the way that people are sentenced, rehabilitated, and released. Increasing opportunities for parole, as addressed by HB 277, is one of several tools to help reduce the incarceration rate in Missouri. Studies suggest the recidivism rate is lower for older populations. This suggests that HB 277 is a way for Missouri to save money without risking public safety. HB 277 will enable some prisoners, who are senior citizens and who have served a substantial portion of their sentence, to be eligible for parole in Missouri. This is a good first step in reducing incarceration. Please support HB 277. Cheryl Adelstein, Deputy Director, Jewish Community Relations Council 12 Millstone Campus Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146-5776, 314-442-3872, cadelstein@jcrctl.org The JCRC is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINE WOODY		PHONE NUMBER: 3145037277	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: EMPOWER MISSOURI		TITLE: COORDINATOR	
ADDRESS: 308 E. HIGH ST., STE 100			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: christine@empowermissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 11:46 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

February 9, 2021 To: Rep. Shamed Dogan, Chairman, and Members of the House Special Committee on Criminal Justice From: Christine Woody, MSW, Senior Policy Coordinator Empower Missouri Re: Our support for HB 277

Founded in 1901, Empower Missouri advocates for the well-being of Missourians through civic leadership, education, and research. As part of our work, we organize a statewide coalition called the Smart Sentencing Coalition. This Coalition guides our work on law enforcement, corrections, and re-entry policies. The Coalition is made up of individuals and organizations who are working for a smarter criminal justice system that works to decrease recidivism, decrease the prison population, decrease Missouri's criminal justice costs all while ensuring our community is safe, all of which would be accomplished by the passage of HB 277. We thank Rep. Hannegan for sponsoring House Bill 277. We believe Missouri spends far too much money and resources on locking up individuals for way too long and would benefit from adopting a number of sentencing reform measures. One of these is parole review for older prisoners. HB277 is a good first step in that direction. This bill has a very small scope and, according to the DOC, would only affect up to 54 inmates through the year 2031. That being said, we do support this important first step and we believe our General Assembly should take it. First and foremost, we believe HB 277 will reduce corrections spending without loss of public safety. Additionally, in light of the current pandemic, when older individuals are more likely to become extremely sick and more likely to die from the virus, this type of compassionate legislation is needed. Here are some facts from The Sentencing Project and the Missouri DOC:

- The Missouri DOC cost of incarceration is \$21.251 per day or an annual cost of \$7,756 per offender [1]
- Studies of recidivism rates among long-term prisoners consistently suggest that the recidivism rate—as defined by recommitment for a new offense—is relatively low.[2]
- A 2004 analysis by The Sentencing Project found that individuals released from life sentences were less than one-third as likely to be rearrested within three years as all released persons.[3]
- A 2011 California-based study tracked 860 people convicted of homicide and sentenced to life, all of whom were paroled beginning in 1995. Longitudinal analysis of their outcomes finds that in the years since their release, only five individuals (less than 1%) have been returned to prison or because of new felonies. [4]

As stated above, Empower Missouri believes HB 277 is a great first step for much needed criminal justice reform. And today, Empower Missouri and the Smart Sentencing Coalition are asking you to please vote Do Pass on HB 277. Sincerely, Christine Woody, MSW Empower Missouri and the Smart Sentencing Coalition

[1] House Bill 277 fiscal note [2] Weisberg, R, Mukamal, D., & Segall J.D (2011). Life in Limbo: An Examination of Parole Release for Prisoners Serving Life Sentences with the Possibility of Parole in California. Stanford, CA: Stanford University. [3] Mauer, M, King, R.S., & Young, M. (2004). The Meaning of 'Life': Long Prison Sentences in Context.

Washington, DC: The Sentencing Project.[4] Weisberg et al.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JEREMY LAFAVER		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: EMPOWER MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 7200 MADISON AVENUE			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64114
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LINDA JEAN SCHROEDER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: tschroeder2@kc.rr.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 10:45 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

From 1985 until retirement in 2006 I was privileged to serve as executive director of Project COPE, a community re-entry support program for persons leaving Missouri prisons and returning to St. Louis. As such I routinely visited every prison in the state to interview each applicant and, after careful screening and acceptance, returned later for a match-making interview with a small team of trained volunteers from a St. Louis area congregation (Christian, Jewish or Muslim) committed to a one year partnership of post-release radical hospitality, friendship and holistic support. We excluded no one on the basis of the crime. We accepted candidates on the basis of proven personal merit and credible intentions for the future -- those most likely to succeed with a little help from some friends. During those early years that included individuals who had been convicted of murder, imprisoned for 15, 18, 20 or so years and released on parole. They became productive, peaceful, tax-paying citizens and life-long friends. Others, however, with the same potential for respectable life after prison, have no such hope. Because of our current egregiously punitive and mandatory sentencing practices, many (including my friend Bill who has been languishing in prison for 39 years already at our expense and in very poor health) are unlikely to live long enough to enjoy freedom. If the truth be told, "Life without . ." is a cruel lie. In reality, it is a death sentence! -- a death sentence which you have the power to alleviate. I implore you to do so by passing HB 277. Respectfully, Linda Schroeder



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARY SCHUMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: DiemCarp@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 10:52 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW ROSENE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mjrosene@wustl.edu	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 12:21 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

It is a well-known fact that the United States has a mass-incarceration problem. Currently, the US houses more incarcerated persons than any other country in the world, with individuals serving life sentences being at an all-time high. This also applies here in Missouri. However, despite this, the duration of time behind bars served by many parole-eligible lifers has increased by 68% between 1991 and 2014. To that end, we must ask ourselves whether these sentencing practices serve any sort of value. From a public safety standpoint, research has shown that the likelihood of recidivism drops after the age of 40 and even more so after the age of 50, so keeping these lifers locked up to prevent recidivism makes less and less sense as time goes on. From a financial standpoint, these older prisoners are twice as expensive to house than younger prisoners because they require additional healthcare, which must come out of the state budget. In Missouri, about 5% of its budget of \$29.661 billion dollars was spent on corrections and public safety. Therefore, as many of these prisoners age, their risk to society decreases, but their cost on the state increases. In addition, in the face of the current COVID pandemic, continuing to hold parole-eligible individuals that are of little risk to society is unethical because they are at higher risk of contracting the disease and getting severely ill. This can be seen as a violation of their constitutional right protecting them from cruel and unusual punishment. In summary, the prevailing practice of retaining geriatric prisoners fails to make financial sense, does little in the interest of public safety, and is counterproductive to efforts that aim to address the larger issue of mass incarceration in the US. With this in mind, while House Bill 277 sponsored by Rep. Hannegan will only affect up to 54 prisoners within the Missouri Department of Corrections, it is still a step in the right direction towards ending the age of mass incarceration we find ourselves in as a nation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MAUREEN FLYNN-HART		PHONE NUMBER: 8167296385	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: THE HISTORIC ST. MARK CHURCH		TITLE: CHURCH COUNCIL ELDER	
ADDRESS: 1101 EUCLID AVE			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64127
EMAIL: m.flynn21391@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 10:09 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

For 35 years we have been advocates for people who are incarcerated. Needless to say we have built lifetime relationships with some who remain incarcerated well past the time that we assess them as a threat to society. We also hold hands with folks who have been victims. We have forgiven. The parole board goals and objectives do not seem to match those of a growing Missouri constituency who have felt for a long time that the voices of those who believe in throwing away the key have been heard more so than those of us who visit prisons and participate in lobbying as well as having family incarcerated. This legislation is a very small effort to try something different. Veterans of the Vietnam era should not die in prison. Families should be reunited. While the corrections system grapples with an unsustainable system please speak for those of us who will be there to assist in transitioning Elders back into our community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BOBZIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mikieb@cjmstlouis.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 7:37 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in support of letting these men who are close to the end of their lives, out of prison. They have already paid for the crimes they have committed and deserve freedom before the Lord calls them home. It is not our duty to judge anybody, only God's.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MO DEL VILLAR		PHONE NUMBER: 8169296166	
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MISSOURI		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE ASSOCIATE	
ADDRESS: 406 W 34TH STREET SUITE 420			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64111
EMAIL: mdelvillar@aclu-mo.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 4:22 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

House Special Committee on Criminal Justice Chairman Dogan HB 277 Hearing Room 6 February 9, 2021
Dear Honorable Committee Members, Thank you for allowing me to present written testimony today. On behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri and our approximately 15,000 supporters statewide, I would like to express our support for HB 277. HB 277 authorizes a parole hearing for inmates over the age of 65 who have served 30 years of their sentence. This act is in line with the 8th Amendment prohibiting cruel and unusual punishment. Beyond upholding key constitutional values, this bill will decrease incarceration costs to the state of Missouri and pose no threat to public safety. Mandatory minimums allowing prisoners to languish in prison with no hope for parole are a cruel feature of our justice system that should be corrected. While each case deserves individual assessment, the conviction of a crime, even a violent one, should not necessitate the death of an individual in prison. Those impacted by this legislation will have served their time, at a minimum 30 years of their sentence, and will not be released without complete consideration. What this bill does is reinstate humanity in our parole process, allowing those who have served time to be evaluated for parole rather than be forgotten and allowing those who are not granted parole to be re-evaluated on a regular basis. By providing a parole hearing for geriatric inmates, Missouri will ensure that our constitutional commitment to due process continues beyond the sentencing of an individual. If Missouri adopts HB 277, it would not be the first in the nation—it would join a cadre of states that have adopted a variety of measures to allow for the early release of geriatric inmates. Studies show that violent crimes committed by people under 30, but even the criminality that continues after that declines drastically after age 40 and even more so after age 50.[1] In Missouri, life sentences are at an all-time high. The Vera Institute of Justice predicts that, should the current rate of expansion continue, that by 2030, one-third of the federal and state prison population in the United States will be made up of adults who are 55 or older.[2] The increased prevalence of life sentences stands at odds with attempts to address prison growth. Opportunities to further shift the direction of our criminal justice system must be seized by lawmakers and other stakeholders to address mass incarceration and reduce prison population, while protecting public safety. The annual cost of incarcerating an elderly or seriously ill prisoner is three times that of a relatively healthy prisoner under 50. [3] Moreover, the Department of Justice asserts that prisoners 55 or older recidivate at a rate of just 2 percent with additional studies showing there is virtually no recidivism for individuals age 60 or older. From a fiscal perspective, HB 277 is a common-sense measure to decrease costs. This is a unique opportunity for the state to address the overburdened carceral system. As the prison population continues to grow and continue to age, this is a necessary step for prison reform. I am available to answer any questions that you might have going forward. Thank you again for your consideration. Sincerely, Mo Del Villar
Policy Director
ACLU of Missouri [1] Weisberg et. al (2011), An Examination of Parole Release for Prisoners

Serving Life Sentences with the Possibility of Parole in California. Stanford, CA. Stanford Criminal Justice Center. [2] Silber, R., Shames, A., & Reid, K. (December 2017). Aging Out: Using Compassionate Release to Address the Growth of Aging and Infirm Prison Populations. Vera Institute of Justice. Retrieved from <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/scans/vera/Using-Compassionate-Release-to-Address-the-Growth-of-Aging-and-Infirm-Prison-Populations-Full-Report.pdf>. [3] TIA GUBLER & JOAN PETERSILIA, ELDERLY PRISONERS ARE LITERALLY DYING FOR REFORM 5 (2006) (available at: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=977249>) (\$70,000 and \$22,000, respectively); CHARLOTTE A. PRICE, NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, AGING INMATE POPULATION STUDY 2 (2006) (noting further that in 2005 the average cost of healthcare for an inmate under 50 was \$1,919 and \$7,159 for an inmate 50 or older) (available at: <http://www.doc.state.nc.us/dop/Aging%20Study%20Report.pdf>).



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RITA LINHARDT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-7239	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CATHOLIC CONFERENCE		TITLE: SENIOR STAFF ASSOCIATE	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1022			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: linhardtr@mocatholic.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 10:20 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The Missouri Catholic Conference supports HB 277 because it seeks to correct a discrepancy within our criminal code that sentences some offenders to life plus 50 years without parole, while other offenders with similar crimes are eligible for parole after serving thirty years. This would target only about 54 offenders. We believe it is fitting to allow the possibility of parole for these individuals. It would put them in line with the current sentencing structure, reduce prison health care costs, and provide a roadmap for an effective way to safely reduce our prison population.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SNEHA CHATURVEDI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: snehamichaela@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 9:27 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

February 8, 2021 To: Rep. Shamed Dogan, Chairman, and Members of the House Special Committee on Criminal Justice From: Sneha Chaturvedi, Medical Student and St. Louis Resident Re: My support for HB 277 I believe long term incarceration of individuals is detrimental both financially and socially. While HB277 has a very small scope (potentially up to 54 inmates by the year 2031 according to the DOC), I believe it is a step in the right direction towards improving parole eligibility in Missouri. Financially, Missouri spends a large amount on public safety and correct costs each year (29.661 billion in 2020) (1). If HB277 passed, this would positively impact this portion of the budget, especially since elderly incarcerated people require more healthcare and cost twice as much as younger incarcerated individuals (2). This financial benefit would not be at the detriment for public safety. The Sentencing Project in 2004 found that individuals released from life sentences were less than one-third as likely to be rearrested within three years as all released persons (3). In addition, a 2011 study showed that out of 860 people paroled after being convicted and sentenced to life, only 5 individuals have been returned to prison (4). Finally, I personally believe incarcerated people should have a chance of a parole hearing earlier than the current eligibility requirement, which can help recognize people with a low risk of recidivism and allow them an earlier re-introduction to society. This is especially important during the current COVID-19 pandemic, as elderly incarcerated people would have a higher risk of fatal complications when contracting the virus. Thank you to Rep. Hannegan for sponsoring House Bill 277. I ask for you all to please vote Do Pass on HB 277. Sincerely, Sneha Chaturvedi Medical Student (1)

Missouri Budget Project's Introduction to Missouri's State Budget 2020 (2)

<https://geriatricparolebill.wordpress.com/> (3)

Mauer, M, King, R.S., & Young, M. (2004). The Meaning of 'Life': Long Prison Sentences in Context. Washington, DC: The Sentencing Project. (4)

Weisberg, R, Mukamal, D., & Segall J.D (2011). Life in Limbo: An Examination of Parole Release for Prisoners Serving Life Sentences with the Possibility of Parole in California. Stanford, CA: Stanford University.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ArnieDienoff@Yahoo.Com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 11:49 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in Opposition of this Bill at this time until more compromise is accomplished. Murder and Sex Offenses, Child Offenses and Harsh Crimes MUST be removed from this Bill. Harry Klein's Life matters and Judy Henderson has been freed.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BENJAMIN J. MILLER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-742-9400	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY's		TITLE: ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY	
ADDRESS: 369 NORTHRUP AVENUE			
CITY: HOLTS SUMMIT		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65043
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DONNA WHITE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Donna_65738@msn.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 2:02 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			
This leaves out geriatric patients in SORT.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL W TEETER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mike_teeter@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 1:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I wish to oppose HB 277 EARLY PAROLE FOR GERIATRIC OFFENDERSThis bill is flawed in several aspects. The primary flaw is that there are restrictions on certain individuals. Americans have a right to be heard by a court or judge with their petitions. This should also apply to all incarcerated persons. Any bill that denies anyone of that should be denied.This bill, like many others seems to forget the innocent children who may only know of the incarcerated person by talking on the phone behind a glass wall or some other barrier. The children are missing out on events with this person, who may be a grandfather, father, or any other kin. If the person meets the requirements to be eligible for parole, the person should be granted parole. All the exemptions should be dropped from this bill.Also, by disqualifying certain offenses, the legislatures are sending a message that the rehabilitative treatment of certain offenders doesn't work. This is not correct and I personally know many people with felony convictions that are good productive citizens. This bill also says someone has to serve 30 years (must receive a parole hearing upon serving 30 years or more of his or her sentence). After 30 years have passed, all people change. This is natural for humanity. Some people change quicker, so this 30-year restriction leaves much to be desired. This bill may keep rehabilitated people from becoming productive members of society.In this period of Covid 19, the geriatric offenders meet the high-risk profile. We need to consider if holding them worth the risk of spreading the virus.Please Oppose HB 277Michael Teeter750 South English Marshall MO. 65340



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHELLE L BARRY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Michblueeyes111@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 2:21 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

If a person is able to demonstrate good conduct while incarcerated, demonstrated self-rehabilitation while incarcerated, have a workable parole plan, acceptable risk factor score and mental health score....why are convicted sex offenders being excluded from this proposed legislation?
Discrimination at its worst!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: VICKI HENRY		PHONE NUMBER: 6362085949	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: WOMEN AGAINST REGISTRY		TITLE: PRESIDENT - WOMEN AGAINST REGISTRY	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 463			
CITY: ARNOLD		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63010
EMAIL: vicki.henry@womenagainstregistry.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2021 12:10 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The basic premise of this legislative proposal and enacted laws of Missouri are focused on the 'once an offender - always an offender' in our issue which is absolutely untrue. If other offenders are given the path to living a meaningful life those incarcerated in our issue should not be the glaring exception. It is a matter of fundamental fairness. The Supreme Court's Crucial Mistake About Sexual Crime Statistics – 'Frightening and High' (Debunks the 80% recidivism rate cited by retired SCOTUS Justice Kennedy) It is very important that you read the abstract below and then the full 12-page essay by Ira Mark and Tara Ellman. ABSTRACT This brief essay reveals that the sources relied upon by the Supreme Court in Smith v. Doe, a heavily cited constitutional decision on sexual offense registries, in fact provide no support at all for the facts about re-offense rates that the Court treats as central to its constitutional conclusions. This misreading of the social science was abetted in part by the Solicitor General's misrepresentations in the amicus brief it filed in this case. The false "facts" stated in the opinion have since been relied upon repeatedly by other courts in their own constitutional decisions, thus infecting an entire field of law as well as policy making by legislative bodies. Recent decisions by the Pennsylvania and California supreme courts establish principles that would support major judicial reforms of sexual offense registries, if they were applied to the facts. This paper appeared in Constitutional Commentary Fall, 2015. (Google: Frightening and High) A study reviewing sex crimes as reported to police revealed that: a) 93% of child sexual abuse victims knew their abuser; b) 34.2% were family members; c) 58.7% were acquaintances; d) Only 7% of the perpetrators of child victims were strangers; e) 40% of sexual assaults take place in the victim's own home; f) 20% take place in the home of a friend, neighbor or relative (Jill Levenson, PhD, Lynn University)



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 277		DATE: 2/9/2021	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Criminal Justice			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: AMY E. BREIHAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-254-8543	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: RODERICK & SOLANGE MACARTHUR JUSTICE CENTER		TITLE: CO-DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 3115 S. GRAND BLVD., SUITE 300			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63118
EMAIL: amy.breihan@macarthurjustice.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 2:32 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Amy Breihan and I am a Missouri resident and Co-Director of the Roderick & Solange MacArthur Justice Center. I am writing to supply information for the General Assembly to consider with respect to House Bill No. 277, which would expand parole eligibility for certain incarcerated people 65 years of age or older. Although I am writing in my individual capacity, I am drawing off my years of experience representing for people who are incarcerated, including around issues of parole. I wanted to point out three important pieces of information regarding who this Bill will impact. First, it will not result in the release of masses of people from Missouri prisons. According to Missouri Department of Corrections' own data, as of June 30, 2020 there were only 900 prisoners age 65 and older. That is less than 4% of Missouri's total prison population. And not every one of those 900 individuals would necessarily fall within the reach of HB 277. Second, the cost of incarcerating older people is significantly higher than younger ones. Intuitively, this is largely due to rising health costs. Indeed, research shows that incarcerated individuals age 50 or older are significantly more likely to suffer from one or more chronic health conditions or disability than their community-dwelling counterparts. Brie A. Williams, James S. Goodwin, Jacques Baillargeon, et al., Addressing the Aging Crisis in U.S. Criminal Justice Healthcare, Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 60, no. 6 (2012), 1150-56, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3374923>. Third and finally, these costs do not result in any significant gains to public safety because this population (incarcerated persons 65 years of age and older) are very low risk to reoffend. There is a "criminological consensus" that, at 50 years of age, "recidivism in all crime categories plummets." Robert Johnson, Murder Most Human: A Case for a Categorical Ban of Life-Without-Parole Sentences for All Juvenile Offenders with Guidelines for Release Decisions for Former Juvenile Life-Without-Parole Cases, 1 J. Crim. Just. L. 57, 64-65 (2017) (citing Nat'l Research Council, The Growth of Incarceration in the United States (Jeremy Travis, Bruce Western, and Steve Redburn, eds., 2014)). A report published by the ACLU in June 2012, At America's Expense: The Mass Incarceration of the Elderly, noted that there is "overwhelming evidence that prisoners age 50 and older are far less likely to return to prison for new crimes than their younger cohorts. For example, only 7% of New York state prisoners released at ages 50-64 returned to prison for new convictions; this number was 4% for prisoners released at age 65 and older. In Virginia, only 1.3% of prisoners age 55 and older returned to prison for a new conviction." <https://www.aclu.org/report/americas-expense-mass-incarceration-elderly>.