

# HEARING ON HB 2167 TO REPEAL THE DEATH PENALTY

## *House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee*

February 13, 2017

### **Testimony in Support of HB 2167 Submitted by Darryl Burton**

Dear Chairman Jennings and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting this letter in support of HB 2167 as it relates to repeal of the death penalty in the Great State of Kansas. I support this legislation because I faced the death penalty but was subsequently sentenced to life without parole and served over 24 years in prison as an innocent man before was exonerated and proven innocent. I was released from prison August 29, 2008 and I have gone around the nation speaking about how the criminal justice system makes mistakes. In my case, but by the grace of God I would have been sentenced as an innocent man to death had the state gotten the death penalty against me. The state of Kansas cannot afford to make this fatal flaw and potentially execute an innocent man.

I want to thank you for considering **HB 2167 TO REPEAL THE DEATH PENALTY** because I experienced life on death row even though I was not under the death sentence it was the worst and most inhumane thing I've experienced in my life. I strongly support this measure and I pray you make a wise decision and abolish the death penalty in the state of Kansas.

Sincerely,

*Darryl Burton*

825 E 21<sup>st</sup> Ave N Kansas City, MO 64116

Email: [darrylaburton@gmail.com](mailto:darrylaburton@gmail.com)

Phone: 816-506-4673