

Helena Unzueta/Rhode Island Freedom Collection
HB7205
For the Sentencing Consideration Act

Dear Chairperson McEntee and Members of the Committee.
I am writing in strong support of the Sentencing Reconsideration Act.

If this bill had been tried to get passed 24 years ago, I may have been against it. My son almost lost his life due to my past Boyfriend's cruel act of Violence. Not only did I almost lose him, but he has also had lifelong struggles due to a brain injury. I watched his personality completely change from happy to sad. His abuser was released early based on the programs he completed and good behavior. I was completely devastated when this happened. For years, I had questioned why they had let him out. It wasn't long ago that I had accepted and understood why he had been eligible for early release. We are all human, and none of us is perfect. We all deserve the same opportunities and forgiveness, especially if we have been working on improving ourselves. I believe it is unfair for incarcerated individuals with lengthy sentences not to be given an opportunity for a Judge to review their case and consider an early release based on positive changes in their lives. Please pass the Sentencing Reconsideration Act. Thank you