

Anabella Mayorga

From: Scott Spencer <revscottspencer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 8:29 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Support of H 7205 -

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I am writing to strongly support H 7205 - the Sentencing Reconsideration Act - or commonly known as the "second look" bill.

National polling indicates that 69% (on all sides of the political spectrum) are in favor of this type of law. It is time to bring it to RI.

The legislation would create a new process for people who have been in prison for at least 10 years to request a judge to shorten their sentence. Each person making this request would need to show that they have worked hard on their education, vocational training, substance abuse recovery and/ or mental health if needed, and have made positive contributions to their community. *This law does not apply to people who are serving life without parole or a sentence based on mandatory minimum term length.*

There are many community benefits, such as improved chances for success after release through education, job training, and recovery programs.

There are clear budgetary benefits. The average cost to keep one person in prison for one year in RI is \$91,193.

And, most importantly, as a long - time faith leader in RI and a former member of the Chaplaincy team at the Medium Security prison in Cranston, there are the moral benefits of creating an opportunity for a "fresh start" and a chance of reconciliation with family and society.

I urge your strong consideration of this bill and approval by the Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

Rev Scott Spencer; Member Central Congregational church -
Providence, RI

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<>< Scott Spencer
508-838-6035