

Dear Chairperson McEntee, Vice Chair Knight, and members of the House Judiciary Committee

Tyrone Mckenny  
Black and Pink  
In support of H8275

I am writing to you in support of this bill (H8275). I am a formerly incarcerated convict that has had many of days behind solitary confinement which has done quite a bit of mental incapacities to my spirit as a human being. I spent years in solitary confinement during my years in the ACI, from 1979-2005 (26 yrs) of life lost in the grips of inhumane conditions, lack of toiletries, basic needs, spiritual guidance and showers just to name a few incapacities. I feel that any administration who were in charge of conditions under the department of corrections missed the mark or dropped the ball to correct human decent issues. I've always learned and witnessed that the objective of corrections was to "break one's spirit" , not rehabilitate.

Prisoners' voices are not fully heard behind the walls, let alone behind the walls, let alone behind solitary confinement. Once a person is at the mercy of the prison system's confinement protocol, then the administration ( officers in particular ) take rehabilitation a bit too personal. They continue to push a "bear" into a corner and expect the bear to not push back. And therefore you know it, the bear has picked up other infractions because of the "TRICKERY" that officers display between themselves and inmates.

Beatings are a given if you're not a favorite of officers. You are not given your due recreation, due showers, or reading material at times. That's just a factual sample of what I went through while incarcerated. This behavior of the prison system does exist. I was part of the receiving end. The only way to stop, is to stop treating human beings like animals.

For this reason I believe that you should pass H8275 and provide oversight to the newly changed solitary confinement policies and codify them.