



Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform

Dear Senator

I am your constituent, a Maryland resident who believes that Maryland's parole system is broken. For the nearly 2000 people who are serving parole-eligible life sentences, the Governor must still personally approve their parole even after a thorough review process by the Parole Commission has concluded they are ready to return to their communities.

For the last decade, impacted men and women and their advocates have introduced legislation to correct this problem and get the Governor out of the parole process. This year, we are closer than we have ever been. SB 202 effectively takes politics out of the parole process. The time is ripe, the action that we have been working for is in your hands. Please, no further delays. Vote to get this bill before the Governor immediately.

Marylanders who have been rehabilitated, who have earned the opportunity for release, and whose readiness for release has been affirmed on the basis of the evidence by the Parole Commission, should not have to spend additional decades languishing in prison at public expense. Please remedy this injustice now and give lifers hope that if they turn their lives around, they will have another chance.

Sincerely,