

JANIENE MALLORY

a statement for the committee to consider before passing this amendment. Please excuse my grammar I rushed to prepare just a busy time in my life just passionate about certain issues but main point excluded certain crimes and each case is different even for non violent offenders.

I believe compassion is a tough word because it's not earned, a person has it for multiple reasons and we show it even to people who do not deserve it and it's not something that a narcissistic sociopaths that don't even understand what compassion is needs, to be shown.

I have had to self reflect on this multiple time in my work when prisoners that have committed murder have been entrusted in my care and have been sick in the ICU. I have had to care for them with no sense of judgment and with compassion, for they did not asked to be sick, but were sick and needed care from a nurse.

I think the amendment is amazing and that it will help people that made mistakes, that have learn from their mistakes that were in situations that maybe would've been different had there life situation been different but when you think of criminals that have committed violent crimes, like murder and rape, I don't think compassion should even be considered for them.

I think that, if this amendment is pass, it should have some kind of clause that states murderers rapists or violent criminals cannot be considered, because these are people that did not have compassion, or did not think about the ramifications of their actions before committing these crimes. Most are narcissistic sociopaths and the these people can not be helped.

I do believe in forgiveness and people changing first I am a nurse I have a lot of compassion second, I am a Christian, and I do forgive, but sometimes forgiveness even for a murderer is for the victim and you can forgive the criminal but I think the criminal needs to continue to serve their sentence for they did not consider the motherless child the sisterless sister, or the childless mother when they committed their acts and for that, I believe that they need to serve their sentences in full. Their families can sacrifice and go visit them in prison if they want to see them or spend time with them. the state and federal government shows compassion by using our tax dollars to provide them with food clothing and shelter, a job, education and fair treatment in the prison system. Whatever situation's that come up where they need to be freed violent criminals need to stay where they are because the victims did not get the same opportunity to be with their loved one that was taken from them.

If a family member need a care giver violent criminal shouldn't get an opportunity to be free to care for loved ones if they are dying from cancer they don't get a chance to have their families with them the person life they took don't get this opportunity so why should these people have an opportunity to be afforded some freedoms that people that follow the rules get.

I just think that the compassionate release act or the compassionate amendment should only look at no violent offenders and look at each case individually, I think the first step act is how we get to prison reform and fair sentencing which is what we needed.

my brother is incarcerated currently, I've had a mother that's been incarcerated and a father that's been incarcerated and I believe that everyone should serve their full sentence these people understand the ramifications of their actions even my family. My brother qualified for compassionate release during Covid we requested was considered was denied and we understood the decision was not in our favor. my brother mother or father weren't violent criminals But criminals born out of circumstances of poverty lack of Education and opportunities that were not afforded African Americans but they new the consequences of their actions and served there sentences.

I was taken from my mothers arms as a baby when my mother was sentenced to one of her many incarceration and i think the judge should've considered leaving me with her, but he did not it impacted me but my mother also did not think of me so this is a tough topic, 50 year ago i think sentencing was fair my mother served her sentence came home and took care of us.

I believe in the first step act and changing sentencing guidelines to help prevent us from needing to consider compassion release for anyone.

I hope this help you all see my point of view i think we need it but not to be taken lightly or to be abused.

Other factors need to be considered also like the inmates behavior while in jail are they assimilating to the prison culture or are they being the change we need them to show so that they can return to the community and be better if compassion is shown for there Situations.

Thanks for listening to me rambling.

Janiene Mallory