Janet Drew York LD 648

Testimony in support of LD 648

to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety on April 23, 2025. Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus and distinguished members of the Committee:

My name is Janet Drew. I'm a retired RN, and I live in York, and I ask that you Please Support this bill. It provides the opportunity for earned and supervised release for people who had been given long sentences in youth.

This bill makes sense for many reasons: medical, financial, scientific, psychosocial, moral and humanitarian.

But I support it especially because it will make our communities safer. The SCCP review process, individual reentry plans, & ongoing supervision support successful reintegration into the community.

This bill offers hope for an earned second chance. That hope is an antidote to frustration & despair & helps make the prison a calmer and safer environment for folks inside, for the staff and for the families of both.

Conversely, dealing with the frustration from overlong incarceration creates stress on all people involved, including staff & the innocent members of struggling families . (note: The ACLU reports diminishing benefits in corrections, for sentences over 10 years.)

Please Support earned release programs, second chances and the research evidence for programs like proposed in LD 648

Thank you Janet Drew, RN, ret