

Kerry Read
Paris
LD 1941

Senator Anne Carney, Representative Amy Kuhn and members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am testifying in support of LD 1941.

Incarcerated people who have proven they are ready to go home, need to be reunited with their families, loved ones and communities. Keeping someone in prison when they could be contributing members of society is a costly choice. Costly to the dignity and well being of the person imprisoned; costly to the well being of children growing up in fragmented families; costly to our society.

As a Unitarian Universalist, I believe that every person is inherently worthy of dignity and compassion; Every person has the right to thrive.

Why keep people locked up, who are no threat to our communities? By allowing them to reintegrate into society, supported by a parole system, we don't just save money, we create the opportunity for people to reclaim their lives, contributing not just to their own wellbeing , but to the wellbeing of their families and our communities. Parole for individuals that pose no risk to others is the compassionate choice, the healthy choice and the fiscally responsible choice.

Please choose to support LD 1941 with your vote today.