

I wish I could be there to tell all of you about my husband. He is an incredible man, an ICU nurse for over 20 years and a veteran. We met in the Army serving together. He made a terrible mistake when he committed his crime and is very remorseful for the actions he took and choices he made. As a consequence, we lost not only his freedom, but his retirement, our house, everything we had was gone but we refused to let it destroy our family. When he was sentenced, the judge said after getting to know him he expected Jon to serve his sentence, be released into the community, and never return to the system. He said he would welcome us moving next door to him. Those words gave us hope that we could get past this terrible experience. He has served almost half of his sentence of twelve years. He has taken every opportunity that has been offered to him while in prison, from counseling to job training. He is now a legal assistant at SRCI. Upon his release, his plan is to become a paralegal and combine that with his medical experience to work with an attorney in medical malpractice. Before Covid shut down visiting, my girls and I visited him regularly, at least every month. Our family has grown even stronger through this experience, drawing together. I facilitate a support group for people that have family or friends in prison through CURE. I am doing all I can to make it easier for him to transition to living outside of prison. I work for the city of Portland and am saving for a house to have a safe and stable home when he returns. If this bill passes and 'good time' is retroactive, it would mean everything to our family. Most importantly, he will be safer while he is in prison because people are better behaved when it will help them get released earlier. But it will bring him home over two years earlier! He will still miss walking his daughters down the aisle but he will get to be there for them again sooner. . He will get to play with his grandchildren and watch them grow. He can work and help me rebuild our retirement. savings so we are never a burden to the state. We can both speak to groups of people to help them get through the prison system with their family members. My husband survived a dangerous'bout with Covid last summer, cannot smell, cannot taste, and has breathing problems and is on oxygen at night. Through all that he worked every day the law library was open since. The guards let him set up a table in the day room to help the men file for their stimulus money because the demand was so large and he wanted to help as many people as possible. Please understand how important this Bill being retroactive will mean to our family and to so many other families! Please let him earn his way home to us sooner. Thank you.