The day my son got sentenced to 8.5 years, was the day my life stopped.

I will never forget the look on his face when the PA wanted to sentence him to 144 years for something he didn't do. I thought I was going to throw up! Then his attorney (court appointed) says," take a plea deal" 8.5 years. Even the judge said," I know you didn't do this, are you sure you don't want to go to court?, you will have only a 50/50 chance to win." "If you don't win, you will be in for life" Hmmm what would you do??????

So my son took the deal for 8 and ½ years even though he was innocent. This is a boy so gentle and sweet, he would never hurt anyone and has never been in trouble. Most of this is because of a girl he lived with and her lies to get rid of him. A false story.

He was beat while the guards turned a blind eye. Transported to several OSP while having Covid, withheld food and showers, then given food with razor blades in them. Put into a condemned building, all while having covid and breathing smoke from the wildfires. How is this fair or just.

Passing senate bill 191 would give my son a shorter sentence and hope to be able to have the same treatments of classes or training while in to be able to leave and have a skill instead of being locked up and forgotten as if he were garbage.

The bill or measure 11 was passed by judgmental people who took the ability of the judge to be able to take each case in his court based on circumstances and be able to judge fairly.

To have earned time in prison will have so many beneficial outcomes. It will encourage my son and fellow adults in custody to serve their time with more purpose. My son says he's heard people charged with a mandatory minimum sentence say, "I am day for day, so what's the point?" Instead of using this time to rehabilitate, they sadly waste their time here because they feel no incentive, and most importantly no HOPE. There was a time when I thought my son would be one of those statistics of prison life and end it all. Thankfully he is still here, but HE ALSO IS STILL IN PRISON. Please, consider passing this bill. FOR MY SON, for MY family who seem to get punished just as much, if not more than those who are wrongfully incarcerated.

Thank your consideration and your time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

Pennie Michaud for Daniel Shoemaker #22771951