

To Whom it may Concern.

March, 18, 2021

A.E. Measure 11 Refers:

Hello, my name is Brandon Skye (Skye) and I am an inmate at Two Rivers Correctional Institute and I am currently serving a 120 month sentence under Ballot Measure 11 for four counts of sexual abuse in the first degree with concurrent and consecutive sentences.

If you are reading this I assume that you are aware of the requirements of measure 11 and its mandatory minimum sentences. My objective here is to show my stay in hopes that you may consider a change in the law and an acceptance of Senate Bill 191 and allow those people who have earned it to be eligible to be recognized for their good behavior and hard work and granted the opportunity to be considered for a reduction in the length of their sentence that otherwise would not be possible given the current stipulations mandated by Measure 11.

I am 33 years old and have been in prison since June 5th, 2014. I was charged and convicted for crimes that I committed Jan, 1, 2003 when I was the age of 14. Twelve years had passed between the commission of the offense and the time charges were brought against me at the age of 26.

From the beginning I took responsibility for my actions and never debated the allegations brought against me that I committed in my youth. From the beginning I attempted to do the right thing and atone for my actions. I was then and continue to be sorry and remorseful for my actions.

After some time in county I signed an open sentencing agreement and plead guilty to 4th and sentenced to 120 months total in prison.

During my time here in prison I have spent my time as productively as possible. During my stay I have followed all rules and regulations to a T and have never been in trouble or received a conduct order. I have done all that I can to be a model inmate and never caused trouble with staff or other inmates. Also while here I have participated in various programs and clubs such as Toastmasters where I earned many certificates and was elected to the executive committee and served a term as Vice President of Public Relations where it was my responsibility to correspond to the Public and Staff to organize events and learning workshops for inmates providing opportunities for them to learn valuable life skills to better prepare themselves for release and or to handle life inside Prison in a positive a constructive way. Also I spent two terms as the Vice President of Education to the club where I organized and structured curriculum and mentored and oversaw members progress and corresponded through our Club Treasurer to create opportunities to hold events and fundraisers to raise money for the club and various organizations outside of the prison such as Coats for Kids, Units for Unemployed, and donations to Homeless shelters, also to provide fun and activities to deserving inmates in an attempt to incentivize and promote good behavior.

Also during my stay here I have remained employed throughout my entire incarceration and also serve on the "Canteen Committee" where a select group of inmates were selected to meet regularly to discuss requests for available products through the prison canteen. We were tasked to think outside the box and think progressively and were given opportunity to serve as liaisons between inmates and staff and security to try to lobby for the needs of the population as well as relay the concerns of staff.

Furthermore, while here I have educated myself in the area of Health and Wellness by studying the ISSA or International Sports Science Association Personal Trainer Course and learned about Anatomy and Bio Mechanics and Diet and Exercise. I have read countless books on the Financial Markets and I actually invest what money I manage to save here through my job. I have extensively read about Renovations and Remodeling Homes for profit through investment and also have taught myself how to speak Spanish. I continue to learn and study every single day. I try to better myself and those around me as much as I am able.

You know when I was arrested I had a home a job and a family and my world was ripped apart by my actions from my youth and in turn hurt a whole lot more people than just my victims that I abused. By my own choices I hurt and cause pain to two innocent victims and those same victims reach out and hurt everyone that I love and care about by going to prison to atone for my actions. I am forever sorry for what I did and will forever wish I could undo my actions and not because of me but truly for the ones I hurt.

I never want to cause pain to anyone ever again in any form. All that I want is to be the best me that I can be and try to make up for the damage that I caused.

¿Measure 11?

You know, through my experience I have met many men that are incarcerated for many reasons from different walks of life and who all handle being in prison differently. Some manage to cope and just go through the motions

doing time just trying to sleep walk through. Some men shut down and go in medication to deal with having their freedom taken from them and some lash out and hurt themselves and attempt to kill themselves and some succeed. Some lash out and hurt others and are in a constant state of aggression and are then forced to spend time alone in solitary for long periods of time months and even years. Prison can be a hopeless place for many and many come here to die, and I know that its usually for a good reason. But not all these men are hopeless and deserve to be abandoned by society.

Some men, and I would hope to be included in this group manage to overcome adversity and make the best of the time they were sentenced to and build positive and constructive qualities and hopefully some day will be able to become productive members of society again one day.

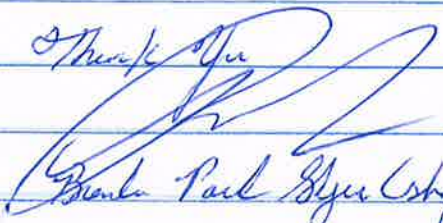
You know, Here in prison there is so much wasted talent and potential that has been used in the wrong way and pointed in the wrong direction through poor guidance and influences.

Measure 11 adds to this miss direction by de-incentivizing these men to choose a better path while here behind these walls. Men usually come here alone and scared and look for a way to survive and tend to get influenced by gang members with the hopes of belonging and safety and protection or acceptance and the fact that good behavior on had your release date is the same miss guide these men and makes choosing wrong one easier option. I know for a fact that re-cidivism and crime post prison could be cut down significantly simply by changing the path these men go down by at the least giving them something to work for, to give them Hope and by giving a chance to be a better man. I believe that if these men chose to change, society can change and society can be a little bit safer place and that is better for everyone, simply by giving the men an option

to work for something like the chance to get home a little bit early simply by exhibiting good behavior and working and behaving themselves.

Such Measure 11 has been debated for decades and it represents an old way of thinking that was flawed, you have a chance to change that flow and change the future for the good of more than just us inmates but for our families and our communities as well. Our inmates made mistakes and those mistakes hurt many people and nothing can undo that damage and we deserve to pay the price for those offenses. but I know a person can change and I believe people should be given the chance to do right and provided the opportunity not a guarantee only an opportunity to be shown compassion and rewarded with a chance to be released early.

Thank you to all of you for your time and hearing my story and my opinion, I ask you to please approve this bill and make history. You have a huge opportunity right here, Please do the right thing.

Thank You

Brandon Paul Ryan (Cody)