

Submitter: Phylicia Butler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2467

I believe that individuals currently in the “aid and assist” criminal system deserve the opportunity to receive treatment and support through the civil system instead. Many of these individuals are struggling with mental health conditions that require medical care and rehabilitation, not incarceration. A civil system approach would provide access to appropriate services, reducing recidivism and promoting long-term stability. Criminalizing mental illness only exacerbates suffering and fails to address the root causes of their challenges. Shifting to a civil framework ensures that people receive the compassionate care they need to heal and reintegrate into society successfully.