

MR. CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, STAFF AND VISITORS

My name is Anthony Quintana and my wife Kathryn and I are here to support Senate Bill 20-076. We live in Pueblo, Co. and our son Anthony Jr. has been in prison for almost over 30 years and is serving a 40 to life plus 15 years. He had just turned 19 two months prior when the crime occurred. This bill can finally provide him with the opportunity to become eligible for parole and be able to become a productive citizen. Anthony has worked hard to be a model inmate and has helped other inmates get education, calmed their anxieties and provide beautiful music. He had always maintained positive reports from staff as well as other inmates.

On Memorial Day 1989 with two accomplices a very terrible crime was committed and consequently our son Anthony Jr. was convicted of First Degree Murder and sentenced to 40 years to life with a 15 year added for kidnapping. For the first two to three years in DOC he was very angry with himself and felt his life was over. He was very depressed and not even wanting visitors. He was ashamed of what he had done to his victim and to all of his and our families. He began to take responsibility for his actions and decided to turn his life around. He found relief in the Bible and started attending church services and started to educate himself and take advantage of all and any programs DOC had to offer that interested him and even more education in order to help himself and help others. He got a degree in Paralegal from Blackstone College. Attended several classes on Psychology at Fremont Correctional Facility. He also took entrepreneur classes at Fremont Correctional Facility. And he also took advantage of all training offered.

Programs: To mention a few

He was one of the first picked to do the Seven Habits Of Highly Effective People training in Limon which is now though all of DOC.

He also trained to do the Shape-Up Program in Limon and conducted Seminars to help kids that were prime candidates for the Department of Corrections. This is where he knew that he

really wanted to serve to help other's.

He took classes on music theory and taught music theory and provided and still does provide music for all occasions with band members. He was one of the trusted band members to actually leave the prison and perform a concert at the Women's Prison in Denver and scheduled to play at other places outside of the facility.

He was also selected to train for Mental Health Peer Assistant program that certified him through Mental Health First Aid U.S.A. which enables him to work at the capacity anywhere in the U.S.A. and is still very active in the program in Limon working with inmates with Mental Health issues, transexual and Suicidal inmates.

Changing the age limit up to the 24 year limit will greatly help many youthful offenders that have done well in prison and have rehabilitated themselves and have earned a second chance at freedom. The LTOP (Long Term Offender Program) that was in force and removed by then Governor Hickenlooper was very successful and of the inmates that participated in the program never returned to prison. The LTOP program is essential in helping the over crowding in the prisons and lowering cost of housing inmates. It also provides the second chance for model inmates serving many years in prison.

In closing, I would like to say that we parents, brother's, sister's, spouses Etc. have supported our loved ones throughout all these years and suffered along with them and would greatly appreciate the chance to help our loved ones start a new life as productive citizens. As for my wife and I, we are both in our Seventies and would love to have our son home.

Thank you