

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence  
For HB 5088

Compiled on: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 12:31 AM

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Hearing Date: April 25, 2023 10:30 AM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

Eric Kunish, Chair  
National Alliance on Mental Illness-Central Texas Affiliate  
Austin, TX

We support this bill!

Lillian Gonzales  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

Dear Sirs and Madams,

1st I ask your understanding and forgiveness for not being educated enough to understand this system enough to use it appropriately. I also apologize if my comment appears repetitively in other areas. I feel I need to be heard and I wasn't sure how to accomplish that here in the format I have been presented with. So I have done the best that I knew how to do. I am a 55 y/o surviving widow of deceased in active duty soldier. I have knowingly and willingly sacrificed more than most in representation of this country my country. I sacrificed my husband for this country my country our country and My Husband knowingly and willingly sacrificed His Life for his country this country OUR COUNTRY. So please forgive my entitlement to be heard whether I am educated enough to do it correctly or not. I want no misunderstanding despite the following statements or complaints I am about to make. I love my country. I am grateful to have the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA as my country. However I am disturbed and saddened at the refusal to acknowledge the failure of the systems that are currently in place. Please don't be offended by what I have said. I am not speaking on the people in charge of running these systems but if the systems themselves. Much like an automobile if the mechanical systems of a car are not correctly maintained by each owner. It's eventually going to breakdown no matter who's behind the wheel. I come to you today not about the inevitable breakdown of our systems that this country is trying to pretend isn't possible. I am coming to you today about an immediate life threatening defect within a particular system among these systems that keep our country running. The Justice system. The quite literal life threatening defect that needs immediate emergency attention is the system within this system referred to TDCJ as Ad. seg or Administrative Segregation or in reality as Solitary Confinement. It is quite literally taking the lives of Men and Women who were never been convicted of a life sentence. Really for real no exaggeration for dramatic effect. PEOPLE ARE DYING. Those that are blessed enough to physically survive Ad. Seg or Administrative Segregation or Solitary Confinement or torture or whatever you want to call it may not feel as blessed as you might assume they should. All is still not known about the permanent and lasting effects to a Man or Woman's psyche. What we do know thus far is that once this damage is done it's done. In MANY cases there is no coming back from the damage that Ad. Seg or Administrative Segregation or Solitary Confinement or torture or whatever it is you want to call what is currently and actively being done to Men and Women in the state of Texas. It is inhumane and cruel. It is often carried out in unusual ways and many times is done in an illegal manner. These facts alone make these common place procedure's of "rehabilitation" unconstitutional. I am begging you to please make this stop please.