

Senator Latz and Committee Members,

Thank you for taking the time to review the bills and content presented to you.

All children, regardless of race, geography or familial income level deserve a chance for redemption. An opportunity to become productive members of society.

Sitting in prison for more years than they have been alive is inhumane. The widely published literature indicates under developed frontal lobes in these juvenile offenders allowed for poor decision making, and yet we are treating these individuals as though they are capable of making only good choices, and even more so, that they understood the implication of their actions long term. Due to Minnesota's archaic juvenile sentencing guidelines, a youthful offender's chance for successful reintegration is improbable. Our youth deserve better.

I write in support of SF 1325.

Allow these juveniles a first look after 15 years, an opportunity to reintegrate and potentially contribute to our state, but most importantly a second chance at life. Don't let their poor decisions define them when they have the ability to be positive members of our society.

Thank you again,

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