Thank you to the members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is

Ken Perkouski and I reside at 237 Logan St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15200.

I am a member of the Association of Pittsburgh Priests, a group of 100 priests of the Pittsburgh Catholic Diocese. I am a lay member. I am here to put the Association of Pittsburgh Priests on record in support of the program for prisoners sentenced to a life term. House Rill 1382 affords a carefully drawn and well supervised program by which life prisoners can carn a parole, the final decision being made by the Parole Board.

We base our support on our faith that every man and woman can change. The system outlined in House Bill 1382 assures that a life prisoner who earns parole will have changed greatly, as far as human beings can judge. We all live by hope. This bill, if enacted into law, will give hope to life prisoners. These prisoners must then take steps outlined in the bill to make their hope come true.

Thank you for your consideration of House Bill 1382. Please keep us posted as the legislative process moves along. Best wishes to all of you and our sincere appreciation for your work, whether you agree or disagree with our support of this bill.