

NEVADA GIRLS STATE
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Memorializes the 2013 session of the Nevada Legislature to enact legislation that will abolish the death penalty and instead allow prisoners to stay in prison as a life sentence with the same privileges as other criminals doing the same term.

WHEREAS; Many innocent men and women are being wrongly accused due to human error for crimes they did not do, based on circumstantial evidence which does not directly prove they were involved in the crime; and

WHEREAS; The mortality rate of those in prisons would possibly be reduced; and

WHEREAS; It violates the “cruel and unusual” clause in the Eighth Amendment in the Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS; Life in prison gives one the ability to reflect on what they have done for the rest of their life; and

WHEREAS; Other countries may have a better image of America, rather than one of a country willing to kill its own people; and

WHEREAS; Morally, this would be a stepping stone in allowing society to move away from believing in the “eye for an eye” revenge and bring more advancement in our civilization; and

WHEREAS; According to statistics in 2011, it costs \$2.5 to 5 million due to appeals for the courts for every person on death row per case, raising costs for taxpayers, while it costs less than 1 million for a regular prisoner sentenced to life without parole; and

WHEREAS; The money comes from local governments that take away resources from the police, health care, infrastructure, education, and additionally forces counties to raise taxes or allow other counties to borrow the money; and

WHEREAS; More money can be sent to those who lost family members for programs in therapy and other services; and

WHEREAS; Lawyers are being paid less and less for these kinds of issues, which may play a role in how well or how badly they treat the case; and

WHEREAS; The death penalty goes against many religions with scriptures that regard executions generally as immoral; and

WHEREAS; Most states without the death penalty all share lower homicide rates below the national average, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

WHEREAS; Since 1977 race plays a role in the fate of one being sent to death row or not; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GIRLS STATE OF NEVADA, assembled in Carson City on July 6, 2012, that the 2013 Session of the Nevada Legislature is hereby memorialized to enact legislation to abolish the death penalty due to the issues in finances, human error, and morals and instead give criminals a life sentence without parole.