

THE DEATH PENALTY'S DYING DAYS MOMENTUM FROM EVERY CORNER

2019 was a critical year for abolishing Ohio's death penalty. Statements and actions by elected officials signal that capital punishment is on its way out in Ohio.

Governor DeWine entered his first term with seven executions on the calendar and reprieved all of them. These reprieves occurred due to concerns about Ohio's three-drug execution protocol that's proven to be torturous.



"Ohio is not going to execute someone under my watch when a federal judge has found it to be cruel and unusual punishment."

GOVERNOR MIKE DEWINE
DAYTON DAILY NEWS ARTICLE FROM FEB. 2019

Shortly after Gov. DeWine's statements, Speaker of the House Larry Householder expressed his waning support for the death penalty.

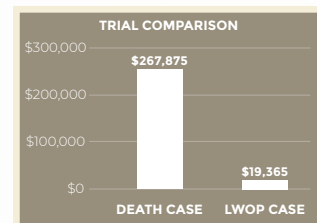
"For one, it's extremely expensive to put somebody to death in lieu of keeping them [for] life in prison....And also, it's becoming more and more difficult to do an execution. ...Over the years we've gone from electrocution to lethal injection, and now there's issues being raised about lethal injection." - Cleveland.com article from Aug. 2019



Speaker Householder was correct in his statement about cost.

COST:

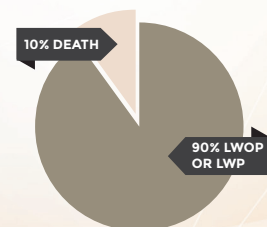
Capital punishment is extremely expensive. In 2017 Summit county compared two aggravated murder cases during the trial phase. When prosecutors sought the death penalty, the case was 10x more expensive.



*<https://news.gallup.com/poll/268514/americans-support-life-prison-death-penalty.aspx>

Not only is the system more expensive, but we have an opportunity cost problem. The state is spending millions of dollars on pursuing death sentences when we know that 9 out of 10 cases end with a sentence less than death.

DEATH PENALTY CASE OUTCOMES 2014-2017



Just this year, the Ohio legislature allocated \$4 million to Pike County to help them carry out trials for a series of murders that occurred in 2016.

