

# THE TIME IS RIGHT FOR OHIO TO REPEAL ITS DEATH PENALTY

## AN OUTDATED PUNISHMENT

Statements and actions by elected officials signal that Ohioans are ready to move beyond the outdated and extreme death penalty, which doesn't serve victims' family members, saps precious state resources, and risks executing innocent persons.

Governor Mike DeWine entered his first term with over two dozen executions on the calendar and has reprieved every date that has come up. These reprieves occurred due to serious concerns about Ohio's execution protocol. The Governor has also expressed increasing concern with the death penalty overall.



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*"There are a lot of things we do, and a lot of things we can do, that are more important as far as safety than the capital punishment debate."*

**GOVERNOR MIKE DEWINE**

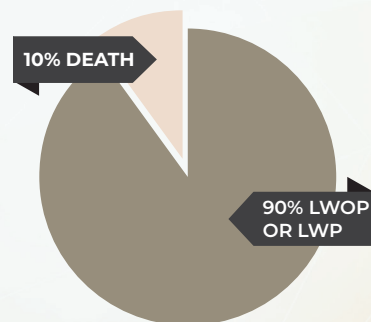
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Ohio leaders have rightfully put a spotlight on a policy that accomplishes nothing but harm and needs to go.

Here's what we know about Ohio's death penalty:

- Nine of out ten death cases in Ohio result in a sentence less than death.
- Empirical studies of the costs of the death penalty show that cases can be up to 10 times more expensive than non-death penalty cases. In 2019, the Ohio legislature allocated \$4 million to Pike County to help them carry out trials for a series of murders that occurred in 2016.
- Our system is fallible. Eleven men have been exonerated from Ohio's death row. For every five executions that have taken place since Ohio's reinstatement of the death penalty, 1 person has been exonerated.
- There's no reliable evidence that the death penalty is a deterrent to violent crime.
- Instead of spending millions of Ohio tax dollars on a risky, expensive punishment that doesn't keep us safe, we could be providing much needed counseling and other services for the families of murder victims.

**DEATH PENALTY CASE OUTCOMES 2014-2017**

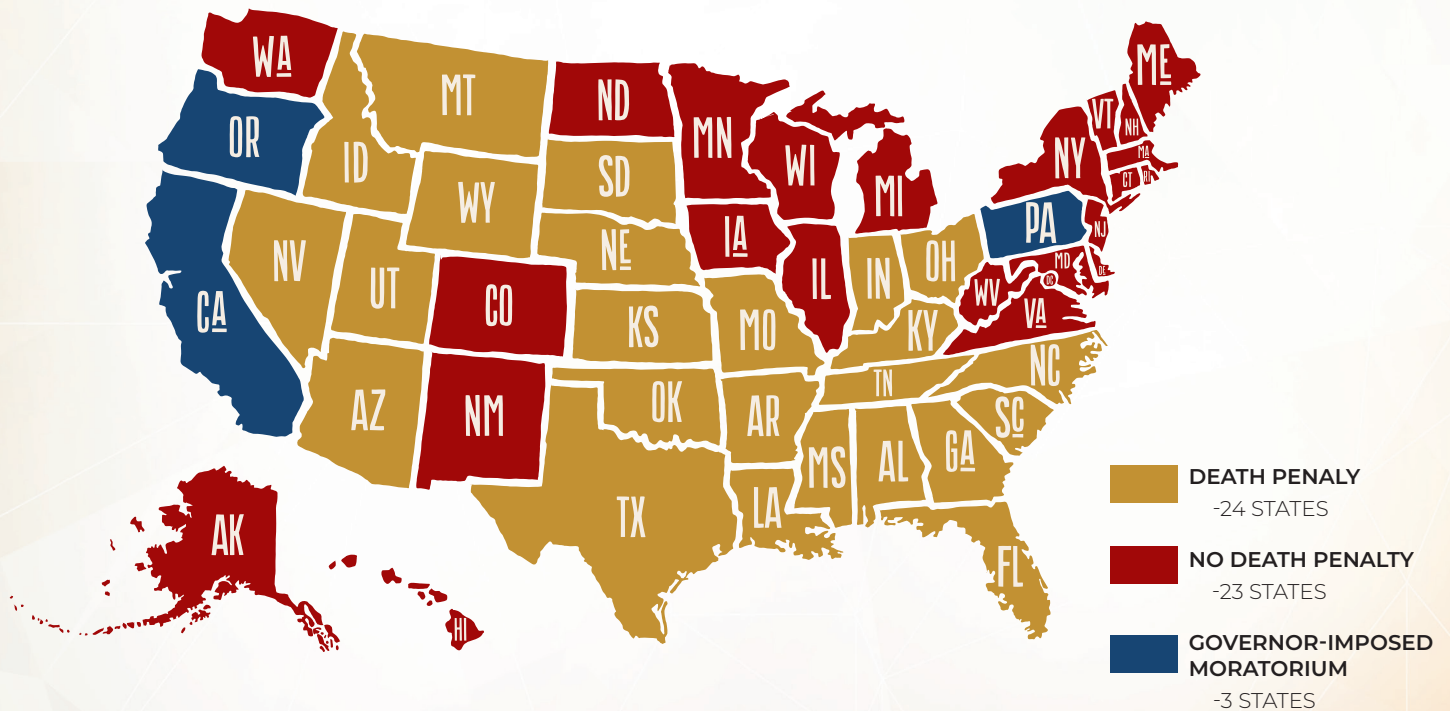


## STRONG AND GROWING MOMENTUM FOR REPEAL

The momentum for repeal is strong – in Ohio and nationally.

- Polls in Ohio and across the nation consistently show Americans prefer a life without possibility of parole sentence over a death sentence.
- Eleven states have abolished the death penalty since 2007, including Virginia in 2021. That brings the number of states without the death penalty to 23.
- 35 states either have no death penalty or have not had an execution in the last 10 years.
- Death sentences and executions have been declining nationally and in Ohio for two decades, with rates plummeting in recent years.
- New voices from conservatives, evangelical leaders, civil rights leaders, and even businesses are coming out in support for repeal.
- In 2021-2022, 11 states had Republican-sponsored repeal legislation. More than forty Republican lawmakers signed onto these bills.
- In 2020, thirty five conservative leaders from Ohio signed a national statement in support of ending the death penalty
- And so much more...

Ohio is critical to maintaining the momentum to repeal the death penalty in the United States. Ohioans have always been leaders, not followers – As Ohio goes, so goes the nation. Join us.



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OHIOANS TO  
STOP EXECUTIONS