

**Name:** Ian Wright

**Title:**

**Organization or Agency:**

**Topic:** Meeting Date Not Listed

NA

**Testimony:**

I would like to highlight the issue of incarcerated people not being able to acquire State IDs unless they are within 24 months of their release date. As you are aware, prisoners like myself who have been incarcerated for decades need identification to open bank accounts ect to have some savings which will help with our reentry into society. The DOC prohibits us from acquiring State identification if we have more than 24 months left on our sentence.

On December 2, 2025, I send I letter to the Ombudsman Attorney Ward with documents attached of DOC Officials' denial to schedule an appointment for me to go to the monthly Correctional visit facility to process my State ID application. This somehow feels like what people who look like me probably felt like in "Jim Crow" South where they were denied the right to vote. I had a drivers' license which expired over two years ago, therefore, I am not eligible for restoration and the next best thing would be to acquire a State ID.

After being denied an opportunity to acquire a state ID from DOC officials I submitted an application on my own to the DMV to acquire a state ID which was returned to me stating that my counselor would have to schedule an appointment for the monthly correctional visit to process my transaction. My counselor refused to schedule any such visit arguing that I do not meet the less than (2) year criteria of Public Act 23-88.

I would like to propose that Public Act 23-88 be amended to include a provision that would allow incarcerated individuals like myself who have more than (2) left on their sentences an opportunity to acquire a State ID especially if they are willing to pay the fees and costs.