Governor Tom Wolf

Office of the Governor  
508 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf,

In 2015, you announced a moratorium on the death penalty in Pennsylvania because of the “flawed system that has been proven to be an endless cycle of court proceedings as well as ineffective, unjust, and expensive.” I am writing to urge you to go further, to work toward adding Pennsylvania to the growing list of states and countries that have banned the death penalty.

Reasons for banning the death penalty are numerous. Once carried out, the death penalty cannot be undone. Dozens of overturned death penalty convictions imply that wrongful executions have occurred. Also, there is no credible evidence that the death penalty deters crime more effectively than a prison term. Furthermore, there is no humane way to kill. The 2006 execution of Angel Nieves Diaz, by a so-called ‘humane’ lethal injection, took 34 minutes and required two doses. Doctors have said that [it is likely Diaz’s death was painful](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/16241245/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/t/botched-execution-likely-painful-doctors-say/#.WsrTn7Kg8dU).

The death penalty is slowly disappearing as states and countries recognize its flawed and immoral nature. Please use your office to call for banning the death penalty in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,