



**Libertarian Party of Oregon Public Policy Board  
Resolution 22-04 Concerning the Death Penalty**

Whereas, The Libertarian Party Platform, Plank 1.8 adopted in 2016 as reaffirmed in Convention, May 2022, states, “**We oppose the administration of the Death Penalty by the state;**” and,

**Whereas**, in accordance with the non-aggression principle we hold that killing a human being when there is no clear and present danger is unjust; and,

**Whereas**, the Libertarian Party of Oregon represents 22,000 registered voters; and,

**Whereas**, on November 22, 2011, Governor Kitzhaber declared a moratorium on executions; and,

**Whereas**, on February 28, 2015, Governor Brown announced the moratorium on executions would continue; and,

**Whereas**, the Oregon Dept. of Corrections dismantled death row in Summer 2020; and,

**Whereas**, Oregon houses 22 individuals sentenced to execution; and,

**Whereas**, in Oregon, the current average length of time on death row is 19.6 years; and,

**Whereas**, litigation will tie up Oregon death penalty appeals in costly taxpayer-funded appeals at a time when the state is experiencing a crisis in public defense; and,

**Whereas**, the 2022 Gubernatorial election does not ensure continuance of the moratorium on executions; and,

**Whereas**, in 1970, Arkansas Governor Winthrop Rockefeller commuted the sentences of Arkansas death row prisoners, and in 2003 Illinois Governor George Ryan commuted 167 death sentences; and,

**Whereas**, Governor Brown's term in office ends January 2023; and,

**Whereas**, in Oregon, the Governor has the sole authority to grant clemency:

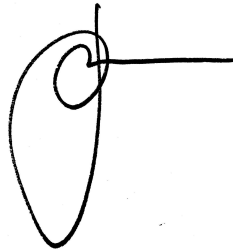
**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** the Public Policy of the Libertarian Party of Oregon is to appeal to Governor Brown to commute all current death sentences before the end of her term of office; and,

**It is FURTHER RESOLVED** the Secretary of the Public Policy Board shall cause a copy of this resolution to be forwarded to Governor Brown, the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, the Oregon American Civil Liberties Union, the Death Penalty Information Center, Oregonians for Alternatives for the Death Penalty, the Episcopal Bishop of Oregon, The Catholic Archbishop of Oregon, the Chair of the Oregon Board of Rabbis, and the Chair of the Libertarian National Committee; and,

**It is FURTHER RESOLVED** the Libertarian Party of Oregon may initiate or sign onto a joint public statement calling for a mass commutation of Oregon's current death sentences and the Chair of the Libertarian Party of Oregon or others designated by the Chair of the Public Policy Board may submit Op/Eds to newspapers and speak to electronic media about this resolution.

**Adopted date: 10/22/22**

**Secretary attest:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, loopy initial 'S' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.