**GENERIC LETTER TO GOVENORS OF STATES THAT HAVE A HOLD ON EXECUTIONS BUT HAVEN’T YET ABOLISHED THE DEATH PENALTY**

Dear Governor Name,

I/We at Amnesty Local Group applaud Pennsylvania’s/state name hold on executions and would urge you to push for capital punishment to be finally abolished in your state and join the overwhelming global trend against this barbarous punishment.

We would also urge you to use your position to push for the death penalty to be banned across the United States. The death penalty should have no place in a society that claims to respect human dignity and that in the USA is riddled with discrimination and error. Three further exonerations nationally this year brings the total to 195 in the modern death penalty era - just one powerful reason the death penalty is so very wrong.

Over 70% of countries no longer execute and the number is growing. The United States is increasingly out-of-step in using what is considered inhumane treatment by Western nations and much of the rest of the world.

Now is a good time to push for change as a recent Gallup poll showed that for the first time more Americans now believe the death penalty is administered unfairly than fairly. Although a majority of states have now either abolished the death penalty or paused executions by executive action, there is still much to do. The death sentences of those who remain on death row should also be commuted to avoid the cruel prospect of states applying a punishment that it has rightly rejected.

We hope that like us you look forward to a world free of barbarous executions and will use your democratically-given powers to help bring this about.

Yours sincerely,

????? Amnesty Local Group/Individual name