Thank you for conveying my message to Senator Hoylman and Assemblymember Salazar who are convening this hearing.

There are over 36,000 reasons why it is an important meeting. According to University College, London and Slave Voyages, there were over 36,000 slave trading voyages in the centuries when that horrific crime flourished. I would venture to say that among the elder prisoners held in NYS there are descendants of those people kidnapped and brought to this country as slaves. The need to seek Justice on behalf of other persons is a motivating reason for the Elder and Timely Parole measures to be reviewed at the hearing. Please pass them !

You will hear many vital aspects of the legislation before the NYS Senate and Assembly Committees on Crime and Corrections. I can only address what is for me the "bottom line" by which I mean the critical need to heal our contemporary Society. It is reeling from mass shootings in the USA; the poverty and inequality; the theft of the future from the Youth of today - there is a too-long litany of problems and they stem from a lack of Justice and Compassion in the face of Greed and White Supremacy.

This hearing should be a first step in correcting the many failings in our "Corrections" system. I thank you for considering my words.

Sincerely,

Nydia Leaf, Ms.Ed.

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