**Committee Judiciary Bill # H.R. 6002699**

First Congress Heritage Middle School

First Session

**March 24, 2016**

Representatives Olivia Coughlin, Kallie Kanatas, McKenna Prial, Jordyn Zucker and Representatives Abraham, Dzieszko, Giles, Keating and Risch introduce the following bill:

**A Bill**

**To abolish the death penalty**

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Sec. 1 This Act may be referred to as the Abolishment of the Death Penalty Act. This bill states, the death penalty shall not be used as a punishment. The death penalty will be replaced by a life sentence in jail with no parole. The death penalty shall not be inflicted on anyone no matter what the capital crime may be. Today, 31 states still use the death penalty as a punishment for some crimes. Bill #699 will no longer allow any state the choice to enact the death penalty. The possibility of putting to death an innocent person will be eliminated. Since 1976, 87 individuals have been released from death row after evidence proved their innocence. Those convicted criminals currently on death row will have their sentence changed to life in prison without parole. Capital punishment is a cruel and unusual consequence and violates the 8th amendment to the Constitution.

Sec. 2 a. Death Penalty will be defined as the punishment of execution given to anyone who commits a capital crime

b. Punishment is defined as the infliction of a penalty for an offence

c. Capital punishment is defined as punishment by death for a crime; death penalty

Sec. 3 a. Parole will be defined as the release of a prisoner temporarily or permanently before the sentencing

b. Death row is defined as a prison block or section for prisoners sentenced to death

Sec. 4 There are no exceptions for federal and state matters

Sec. 5 This law will be implemented by the Judicial Branch

Sec. 6 Funding will come from Government Discretionary Spending Budget of the Department of Justice if needed

Sec. 7 It will become a federal offence for any judge to enforce. Federal Funding will not be given to any state that continues to enforce capital punishment

Sec. 8 This law will take effect October 29, 2017