

No 25-6770

ORIGINAL

FILED

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SUPREME COURT, U.S.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Heath W. Gray, Pro se Petitioner

v.

Department of State, Respondent

ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI  
TO  
THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

Heath W. Gray FP-0237  
Pro se Petitioner  
PADOC, SCI GREENE  
175 Progress Drive  
Waynesburg, PA 15370

## QUESTION PRESENTED IN THIS VOTING RIGHTS APPEAL

We all know the rally cry of "No Taxation Without Representation" which gave birth to this great nation. Until this case we have never asked a court of law to determine which taxpaying citizens this principle applies to here in America. Our forefathers wanted to be fairly represented in the government they invested in through taxation just as I do here today.

Many of us know the biblical teaching of a righteous father who would not give his son a serpent if he asked for a fish. Similarly, when a taxpaying citizen petitions his government for a redress of his grievances in accord with his first amendment right, he does not expect his government to avoid his grievance of "No Taxation Without Representation", and disingenuously evade rendering a ruling on this fundamental value judgement that our democratic republic was born from. This decision is not the fish I asked for from our honorable government. All I ask is, if I am going to be denied, please, deny me on the merits in which I framed my argument.

Unless this United States Supreme Court would choose to exercise its authority to grant certiorari, appoint counsel, hear arguments, and render a fair decision on this "No Taxation Without Representation" voting rights appeal, I humbly ask just one question.

### Question

Would this Honorable High Court, please REMAND this suffrage rights appeal to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to adjudicate my "No Taxation Without Representation" grievance?

## **PARTIES TO THIS PROCEEDING**

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414 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-2410  
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## **Related Cases**

2 WAP 2025 Pennsylvania Supreme Court

442 MD 2023 Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court

Pro se Appellant  
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**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

**PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

Petitioner respectfully requests a writ of certiorari to address and correct the judgements below and to honor our constitutional first amendment right to petition the government for a redress of grievances. Since the state courts failed to address Petitioner's stance of "No Taxation Without Representation."

**OPINION BELOW**

AND NOW, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2025, the order of the Commonwealth Court is **AFFIRMED**. The application to file post-submission communication is **DENIED**.

(See Appendix A)

**STATEMENT OF JURISDICTION**

The opinion, order, and judgement of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania marked Appendix A was entered on October 23, 2025.

Jurisdiction for this Honorable Supreme Court of these United States is invoked under 28 U.S.C. §1257(a) and 28 U.S.C. §2106.

## FUNDAMENTAL VALUE JUDGEMENT INVOLVED

### **"NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION"**

Our Declaration of Independence proclaims:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness --- That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the Consent of the Governed ..."

"The History of the present King George of Great Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World"

"He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of people, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only."

"He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving Assent to their Acts or pretended Legislation;"

"For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent"

"In every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury."

"We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to diavow these Usurpations, which, we would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity."



## **CONSTITUTIONAL AND PROCEDURAL PROVISIONS INVOLVED**

### **UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**

#### **1. The Preamble of our U.S. Constitution Provides:**

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

#### **2. Article III, Section 2, Clause 1 of our U.S. Constitution Provides:**

"The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, between a State, or the Citizens thereof ..."

#### **3. Article VI, Clause 2 of our U.S. Constitution Provides:**

"This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; ... shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby ..."

#### **4. Amendment I of our U.S. Constitution Provides:**

"Congress shall make no law respecting ... the right of the people ... to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

#### **5. Amendment V of our U.S. Constitution Provides:**

"No person shall be ... deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; ..."

#### **6. Amendment XIV of our U.S. Constitution Provides:**

"No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

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## PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTION

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7. Article I, Declaration of Rights, Preamble of our PA Charter provides:

"That the general, great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and unalterably established, WE DECLARE THAT—"

8. Article I, Section 1 of our PA Charter provides:

"All men are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent and inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing and protecting property and reputation, and of pursuing their own happiness."

9. Article I, Section 2 of our PA Charter provides:

"All power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority and instituted for their peace, safety and happiness. For the advancement of these ends they have at all times an inalienable and inalienable right to alter, reform or abolish their government in such manner as they may think proper."

10. Article I, Section 5 of our PA Charter provides:

"Elections shall be free and equal; and no power, civil or military, shall at any time interfere to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage."

11. Article I, Section 20 of our PA Charter provides:

"The citizens have a right ... to apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances ... by petition, ..."

12. Article I, Section 25 of our PA Charter provides:

"To guard against transgressions of the high powers which we have delegated, we declare that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government and shall forever remain inviolate."

13. Article I, Section 26 of our PA Charter provides:

"Neither the Commonwealth nor any political subdivision thereof shall deny to any person the enjoyment of any civil right, nor discriminate against any person in the exercise of any civil right."

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14. Article VII, Section 1 of our PA Charter provides:

"Every citizen 21 years of age, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections subject, however, to such laws requiring and regulating the registration of electors as the General Assembly may enact.

1. He or she shall have been a citizen of the United States at least one month.

2. He or she shall have resided in the State 90 days immediately preceding the election.

3. He or she shall have resided in the election district where he or she shall offer to vote at least 60 days immediately preceding the election, except that if qualified to vote in an election district prior to removal of residence, he or she may, if a resident of Pennsylvania, vote in the election district from which he or she removed his or her residence within 60 days preceding the election."

15. Article VII, Section 4 of our PA Charter provides:

"All elections by the citizens shall be by ballot or by such other method as may be prescribed by law: Provided, That secrecy in voting be preserved."

**PENNSYLVANIA RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE**

**16. RULE 1029. DENIALS. EFFECT OF FAILURE TO DENY**

"... (b) Averments in a pleading to which a responsive pleading is required are admitted when not denied specifically or by necessary implication. A general denial or a demand for proof, except as provided by subdivisions (c) and (e) of this rule, shall have the effect of an admission."

### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

As an inept pro se Appellant, I do humbly beg this Honorable Supreme Court for some leeway and goodwill in this quest for voting rights based on a financial investment into the government through taxation by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Appellant, Heath W. Gray, is a felon confined at SCI GREENE seeking voter registration pursuant to the fundamental value judgments our country declared when we denounced British Rule in our Declaration of Independence. This is our societal value of "No Taxation Without Representation".

Appellant made three (3) attempts to obtain voter registration through the office of the Pennsylvania Department of State without receiving any replies.

Appellant filed a PETITION FOR REVIEW with the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania who dismissed his petition based on previously decided inmate voting rights cases without addressing Petitioner's "No Taxation Without Representation" claim.

Appellant appealed to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court pointing out that the Department of State, the Attorney General, and the Commonwealth Court all have failed to address Appellant's stance on "No Taxation Without Representation". The Pennsylvania Supreme Court AFFIRMED the Commonwealth Court's decision without redressing Appellant's claim on taxation as a financial investment into the elected body.

NOW, Appellant asks this Honorable Court to apply his first amendment right to have his government redress his grievances and render a ruling on the merits of "No Taxation Without Representation", or REMAND to allow the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to render a ruling on the merits presented to them on taxation.

## REASONS FOR GRANTING THIS WRIT

We as a nation have established a Constitution to be the highest authority of our land "in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity ..." (U.S. Constitution, Preamble).

What do these words truly mean? Is a more perfect union formed by taxing a less desired class of citizens and interfering with their right of suffrage? Does our courts evading arguments presented to them secure the values and rights of all citizens including the less desired citizens in our penal system?

Facts are stubborn things. No matter how many manifestly evasive and disingenuous decisions a court might hand down in accordance with their own political persuasions, desires, and wishes, the state of the facts and the evidence they evince remains the same. Facts do not change. A tangled web of evasively tyrannical, result-oriented, disingenuous, and wholly untenable decisions cannot alter facts. The facts in this case are the truth and our rule of organic law. They are so plain and simple.

1) Petitioner attemptd to exercise his U.S. constitutional first amendment right to have his grievances redressed by his state government. Pennsylvania's Attorney General failed to object to Petitioner's claim of being a taxpaying citizen. (See Appendix D) Petitioner cited Pa.R.C.P. 1029(b) asking the Commonwealth Court to accept Petitioner's claim of being a taxpaying citizen as an uncontested truth in accordance with this rule. (See Appendixes E & H). The PA Commonwealth Court also failed to address Petitioner's grievance of "No Taxation Without Representation" or to apply PaR.C.P. 1029(b). (See Appendix B)

On appeal, the PA Supreme Court AFFIRMED and DENIED Petitioner without addressing Petitioner's argument of financial investment into the government through taxation, or redressing the Commonwealth Court's failure to adhere to Pa.R.C.P. 1029(b). (See Appendixes I-K, & A) These evasive actions by the PA court system is a violation of my first amendment right to have my government redress my grievances.

The powers vested in our U.S. Supreme Court as the supreme law of the land establishes jurisdiction for a citizen to air his grievances even if they are with the state in which he resides. (U.S. Constitution Article 3, Section 2, Clause 1).

2) Whether it was done by mistake or by fraud, one stubborn and shocking fact is the evasive and disingenuous decision handed down to me by our state courts erroneously quoting the late Chief Justice Thompson of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in *Patterson v. Barlow*, 60 Pa. 54 (1869) as if he actually ruled the General Assembly's regulatory power granted by Article VII, Section 1 of the Pennsylvania Constitution provides lawmakers with unfettered authority to deny any constitutionally qualified and taxpaying citizen in Pennsylvania such as incarcerated felons of their right of suffrage by enacting regulatory legislation establishing extraconstitutional disqualifications contrary to the inherent, fundamental, inalienable, inviolate, indefeasable, unalterable, and inestimable right of suffrage unmistakably guaranteed to all constitutionally qualified and taxpaying citizens of Pennsylvania by our Declaration of Rights in Article I of our state Charter.

To be sure, while disingenuously insinuating the foregoing, Pennsylvania courts actually only ruled our legislators have the unfettered regulatory power to prevent incarcerated felons like me from voting by absentee and mail-in ballots. However, despite the fact I am a constitutionally qualified and taxpaying citizens, this court decision is being used as the final word by all three branches of our Commonwealth to discriminate against all confined felons like me and prevent us from ever exercising our right to register and vote in any manner whatsoever.

Pennsylvania courts handed down this disingenuous decision and evaded addressing and adjudicating my "No Taxation Without Representation" suffrage grievances including the fact that the civil powers we call our executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government are unquestionably prohibited from ever discriminating against and interfering to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage guaranteed to all groups of constitutionally qualified and taxpaying citizens of Pennsylvania by the provisions of Article I, Sections 1, 2, 5, 25, & 26 in our state Constitution. However, this is exactly what they are all doing by not allowing me to register and vote in any manner as other constitutionally qualified electors get to enjoy.

Indeed, as quoted in Lancaster City's Fifth Ward Election, 281 Pa. 131 (1924), former Chief Justice Thompson also made this point clear in Page v. Allen, 58 Pa. 338 (1868). He articulated the facts much better than I have been able to express them throughout this appeal by saying, "For the orderly exercise of the right resulting from these qualifications, it is admitted that the legislature must prescribe necessary regulations, as to the places, mode and manner, and whatever else may be required, to insure its full and free exercise. But this duty and right inherently imply that such regulations are to {126 A. 201} be subordinate to the enjoyment of the

right, the exercise of which is regulated. The right must not be impaired by the regulation. It must be regulation purely, not destruction. If this were not an immutable principle, elements essential to the right itself might be {281 Pa. 136} invaded, frittered away, or entirely excised under the name or pretence of regulation, and thus would the natural order of things be subverted by making the principle subordinate to the accessory. To state is to prove this position. As a corollary of this, **no constitutional qualification of an elector can in the least be abridged, added to, or altered, by legislation or the pretence of legislation. Any such action would necessarily be absolutely void and of no effect.**" -- Bold added.

In other words, as a constitutionally qualified and taxpaying citizen of Pennsylvania, our General Assembly, our Department of State, and our courts have the duty to ensure I have some manner in which to exercise my right to register and vote. However, much to the contrary, they are discriminating against me and otherwise interfering to prevent me from exercising my right of suffrage or else there would be no need for this appeal.

These shocking and stubborn facts alone should provide more than enough reasons for the Honorable Supreme Court to at least Remand this appeal to our Supreme Court here in Pennsylvania with instructions, and yet there are other compelling reasons as well for granting this Writ.

3) The most obvious of these might be the fact our United States Constitution clearly does not prohibit a taxpaying citizen with felony convictions like Donald Trump from being President of these United States, so it would be absurd for anyone to argue it prohibits other taxpaying citizens with felony convictions like me from even exercising our right to register and vote.



Indeed, as I have humbly suggested, Congress should introduce the following Amendment to our Constitution:

### AMENDMENT XXVIII

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of criminal convictions except treason. Congress shall have power to enforce this Article by appropriate legislation.

4) There are about 40,000 taxpaying citizens in Pennsylvania and maybe 2,000,000 throughout these United States who are being denied their right of suffrage because of felony convictions which make this voting rights appeal of national importance.

5) "No Taxation Without Representation" was to be "a Right inestimable to" our forefathers in our Declaration of Independence. They maintained that denying the people of this invaluable right was "formidable to Tyrants only." They insisted governments must derive "their just powers from the Consent of the Governed." (See Appendix C, Exhibit A) "No Taxation Without Representation" is a fundamental value judgement unambiguously, expressly, irrefutably, and irrevocably guaranteed and protected under our "Declaration of Rights" in Article I, Section 5 of our Pennsylvania Constitution which so explicitly and unmistakably mandates in plain English, "Elections shall be free and equal; and no power, civil or military, shall at any time interfere to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage." This leaves no room nor gives any authorization for the disenfranchisement of confined felons short of a constitutional amendment.

6) However, 35-40 thousand Pennsylvania prisoners are being taxed without representation, yes, without their "inestimable" right of suffrage. (See Appendix C, Exhibit B) The civil powers we call our executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government are interfering "to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage" of confined Pennsylvania prisoners is such a patent violation of Article I, Section 5 of our state Charter. As the Boston Tea Party quite unambiguously demonstrated, "imposing taxes on us without our Consent" is among "a long train of Abuses and Usurpations" which led to our forefather's Revolutionary War with tyrannical King George of Great Britain who taxed them without representation. To be sure, our founding fathers did not revolt and wage war to replace one tyrant thousands of miles away with thousands of tyrants right here at home. However, this is the cruel and intolerable reality for Pennsylvania prisoners who are being taxed without suffrage here today.

7) We, the confined citizen taxpayers of Pennsylvania do hold these truths to be self-evident that no constitutional authority exists to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage and no constitutional authority exists to tax prisoners while denying them of their quite "inestimable" right to vote while in prison. "No Taxation Without Representation" is unmistakably fundamental fairness, and fairness is the cornerstone of justice. The right to vote is intrinsic to our democracy. A republic "of the people, by the people, and for the people" is actually not a republic if many thousands of its citizens are taxed while being deprived of their constitutional, fundamental, and inestimable right to vote. Taxation without representation is as unthinkable for prisoners like me here in Pennsylvania today as it was for our forefathers over 200 years ago when they drafted and signed the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia Pennsylvania.

8) Indeed, just what do you imagine would happen to our social security system if senior citizens were stripped of their right to vote? Would it get better or worse? To be sure, it would get worse. It would get so much worse, senior citizens would start calling our social security system unfair and unbalanced. Similarly it is clearly unfair and unbalanced for prisoners who meet all the constitutional qualifications of electors to be arbitrarily stripped of their right to vote for fair and balanced representatives thereby clearing the way for patently unfair and unbalanced tough-on-crime prosecutors, judges, legislators, and other politicians to flourish unchecked like weeds oversown in a field of wheat. Prisoners who are veterans and also the children of veterans along with actually innocent persons are among those being deprived of their immeasurable liberty and justice interests we have all repeatedly pledged for one another as fellow Americans in the form of "No Taxation Without Representation". The principles of a democratic society are designed to create fairness to all those who financially invest in the governing body through taxation.

9) From Presidents and Governors in our executive branches of government through lawmakers in our legislative branches and the prosecutors and judges in our judicial branches, our criminal justice systems have become so unfair that these elected officials have actually been running for office and winning on blatantly unjust tough-on-crime platforms rather than fair and balanced positions. Furthermore, they have been abusing their authority through these positions to help bolster and further their tough-on-crime political agendas by obtaining convictions at any cost, including those who might be innocent. Again, with fairness being the cornerstone of justice, tough-on-crime political stances simply do not balance on the scales of justice.

10) Just like treating others as we would want others to treat us is a fundamental principle of Christianity, "No Taxation Without Representation" is a fundamental principle of American democracy. This solid foundational value judgement is only realized with all qualified taxpaying citizens having the right to vote resulting in the most fair and balanced leaders possible being elected in full accordance with the expressly unambiguous, irrefutable, and irrevocable guarantees and protections of our state Charter in Article I, Section 5. Again, fairness is the cornerstone of justice, and there is nothing at all fair about taxation without suffrage. It is unconscionably unconstitutional and so down right un-American to tax a citizen and deny him of a constitutional right such as the right of suffrage.

11) Here in Pennsylvania, many convicts have the right to vote regardless of their "condition of confinement" except (may God help us) for those confined in a penal institution for a felony. (See Appendix C, Exhibit C) But, only allowing paroled felons including many paroled lifers to vote while still serving their legal sentences out on parole is a violation of due process and equal protection since our courts have so consistently ruled parole "is in legal effect imprisonment", yes, it is "an established variation in imprisonment of convicted criminals" here in Pennsylvania. (See Appendix C, Exhibit D) In other words, felons on parole are still serving their legal sentences of confinement under the authority of a superintendent of a penal institution just as certainly as confined felons who are not on parole. Both groups have an equal right of suffrage according to our state Charter.

12) Moreover, it is also a patent violation of equal protection and the privileges and immunities citizens are entitled to for most confined PA prisoners to be denied their "inestimable" and constitutional right to vote when all prisoners confined in some northeastern states like ME and VT can vote even while incarcerated especially when Article I, Section 5 of our own state Charter mandates that all "Elections shall be free and equal; and no power, civil or military, shall at any time interfere to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage."

13) Additionally, it is an atrocity when all wrongfully convicted innocent people like Walter Ogrod (See Appendix C, Exhibit E) are stripped of their right to vote in Pennsylvania for 10, 20, 30 or more years before being completely exonerated and released, and to tax them while confined without representation isn't just adding insult to injury; its stacking one fundamental miscarriage of justice upon another. This is shockingly cruel interference with our right of suffrage and our right to the "Liberty and Justice for all" we have pledged for one another as fellow Americans. This impacts all hapless felons like me confined in our penal institutions.

14) How can citizens have faith in a criminal justice system that incarcerates many innocent people like Walter Ogrod in violation of another one of our fundamental value judgements as a society, namely, that it is better for 10 guilty people to go free than for 1 innocent person to suffer in prison. This is especially so when these innocent people incarcerated in prison with death, life, or long sentences are also being denied their patently foundational and inestimable right to representation in the form of the right to vote. Compounding one fundamental miscarriage of justice with another is such freakishly cruel and fundamentally un-American injustice. Again, "No Taxation Without Representation" is simply a foundational, fundamental, and inestimable value judgement every American patriot has fought for and held dear to for generations.

15) Instead of disenfranchising, expatriating, ostracizing, and otherwise alienating confined felons which is patently and wholly counterproductive to our rehabilitational goals, our Commonwealth should be encouraging wayward sons and daughters to grow, mature and turn their lives around like prodigals to do their civic duty by getting involved and taking pride in voting for the most fair and balanced of all candidates who will strive to make our society a better place for everyone to live, work, and enjoy our unalienable rights in the pursuit of happiness.

16) While our General Assembly is endowed with great legislative powers subject only to the explicit restrictions and requirements in our Constitutions based on our own fundamental value judgements as a society, it is the province of our judiciary to determine whether a statute in whole or in part violates clearly expressed prohibitions or requirements in our Constitutions. Even giving our executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government the benefit of any constitutional doubt, it is still as plain as day they have overstepped constitutional bounds.

17) To be sure, nothing in Article VII, Section 1, nor Section 4 on "Elections" allows any "civil" power, including our Department of State, General Assembly, or our courts to "at any time interfere to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage" of any Pennsylvanians, and especially not taxpaying Pennsylvanians who meet all the constitutional qualifications of electors, to wit, being at least 21 years of age (changed to 18 by U.S. Constitution), a citizen of the United States for at least a month, a resident of Pennsylvania for at least 90 days, and a resident for at least 60 days of the election district where they shall vote.

18) These basic rights are written in plain English for everyone to easily read and understand and yet "transgressions of the high powers" have served to "discriminate against", "deny", and yes, "interfere to prevent the free exercise of the" fundamental, inestimable, inviolate, and civil "right of suffrage" for every constitutionally qualified elector like me confined in a penal institution. Is this not clearly, plainly and patently a violation of our own Pennsylvania Constitution?

19) Indeed, what are the explicit mandates of Article I, Section 25? In no uncertain terms, the "power" to discriminate against, interfere, prevent, and deny taxpaying persons confined in penal institutions of their fundamental, constitutional, inestimable, and civil "right of suffrage" guaranteed in Article I, Section 5 for all who meet the 4 constitutional qualification of electors in Article VII, Section 1 is "excepted out of the general powers of government" (legislative, judicial and executive) and "shall forever remain inviolate." As if this isn't clear enough, Article I, Section 26 expressly mandates that: "Neither the Commonwealth nor any political subdivision thereof shall deny to any person the enjoyment of any civil right, nor discriminate against any person in the exercise of any civil right." On top of all this, there shall be "No Taxation Without Representation" in a government by the consent of the governed with liberty and justice for all. With these protections and safeguards in place I cannot understand why all three branches of our state government are allowed to continue this discrimination against our class of taxpaying citizens by interfering to prevent the free right of suffrage we are clearly entitled to.

20) Again, for the orderly exercise of the right of suffrage for every taxpayer who meets the constitutional qualifications for electors in Article VII, Section 1, it is indeed indisputable our legislature must promulgate the necessary regulations as to the time, place, mode, and manner by which all constitutionally qualified electors may register and vote to help ensure its full exercise. The only constraints on our General Assembly's design of these necessary matters are maintaining the secrecy of the vote and not interfering at any time to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage by constitutionally qualified electors and this is especially so when the government is taxing them in accordance with our fundamental value judgement as a society that there shall be "No Taxation Without Representation". It is as clear as crystal our state Charter does not provide our Department of State, our General Assembly, nor our courts with any power, authority or directions to disenfranchise any person who meets all of the expressed constitutional qualifications of electors in Article VII, Section 1.

21) While some might choose to argue we don't want lawbreakers having any say in the laws we pass, it could just as easily be argued we don't want people who are living in nursing homes, homeless shelters, or rehabs having any say in what laws we pass since they might be off their rockers, high, or just utterly irresponsible. Our republic is a government by the consent of the governed with "No Taxation Without Representation" as the basis of balance in our society. We have established a Constitution with elector qualifications woven into it. There is nothing to argue about. I simply ask that our Constitution be honored, respected, and upheld.



22) At one time in our history, white men disenfranchised black men and men disenfranchised women. Now, some democrats might want to disenfranchise some republicans and vice versa. We will always have diverse groups of electors with some members who dislike others they consider undesirable. However, this helps establish balance, and nobody reserves the tyrannical right to strip a civil right from another citizen by discrimination, intimidation or political power bestowed upon them by the very right empowering them, especially not against a taxpaying citizen with the constitutional rights and safeguards established in our state Charter's Article 1, "Declaration of Rights".

23) Furthermore, it is not like there's any chance of confined felons in our penal institutions numbering only 35-40 thousand here in Pennsylvania ever being able to take control of our Commonwealth which now has a population of constitutionally qualified electors numbering well into the millions. However, **when** the very First Amendment to our federal Constitution so unambiguously mandates that, "Congress shall make no law respecting ... the right of the people ... to petition the Government for a redress of grievances" and yet tough-on-crime lawmakers in both federal and state Houses and Senates have nevertheless made several laws limiting, restricting, and even banning the right of the people confined in penal institutions from petitioning the government for a redress of their grievances, we want our right of suffrage.

24) **When** some wrongfully convicted innocent fellow prisoners are confined in our penal institutions for 10, 20, 30, or more years and taxed without representation to boot like the short bio of Walter Ogrod marked Exhibit E of Appendix C shows, we need our right to vote.

25) **When** incredible and untenable court rulings result in people like me convicted of the lesser offence of second degree murder after accidentally, unintentionally, or otherwise inadvertently causing the death of a fellow human being during the course of committing a felony including some getaway drivers, lookouts, and other less morally culpable accomplices who never actually killed anyone, yes, when incredibly untenable court ruling result in us being so arbitrarily stripped of our civil rights, liberties, and freedoms forevermore and punished even more severely than we are punishing serial killers, mass murderers, contract killers, and other people convicted of the greater offence of capital first degree murder who are enjoying the peace, quiet, and privacy of single cells, heightened constitutional protections and a free team of attorneys for life while people convicted of the lesser offence of second degree murder must suffer without these rich blessings while being denied clear liberty and justice interests in the form of the parole reviews we are so patently entitled to by law, we cry out for our right of suffrage.

26) **When** confined felons convicted of first degree murder were routinely and safely granted clemency and parole after around 15 years throughout Pennsylvania's history right up into the 80's while over 1,000 people convicted of the lesser offence of second degree murder since 1974 are being forced to serve 30, 40, 50 or more years in our state prisons before finally suffering death by incarceration, we all call out for our fundamental, inestimable, constitutional, and inviolate civil right to vote.

27) **When** confined felons are suffering through these and other cruel and unconstitutional injustices under the heavy hands of tough-on-crime prosecutors, judges, lawmakers, and other elected officials, it is wholly un-American for us to be deprived of our patently inviolate civil and constitutional right of suffrage.

## CONCLUSION

Again, since our United States Constitution does not prohibit a qualified taxpaying citizen with felony convictions like Donald Trump from being the President of these United States, it certainly does not prohibit other qualified taxpaying citizens with felony convictions like me from exercising our right to register and vote.

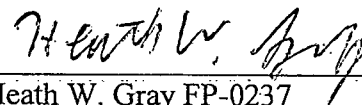
Echoing the sentiments of the American patriot Patrick Henry and the biblical patriarch Job, I do declare "Give me liberty, and justice, or give me death!" As long as I'm alive I intend to keep on fighting until the fairness of suffrage is realized by everyone in my unfortunate situation in due compliance with the truth, our rule of law, and our fundamental value judgements as a democratic republic for "No Taxation Without Representation".

Where there is a right, there must be a remedy.

So, I humbly beg this Honorable Supreme Court of the United States to at least use its supervisory authority to REMAND this appeal to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania with instructions to adjudicate my "No Taxation Without Representation" grievance.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 12-30-25

  
Heath W. Gray FP-0237  
Pro Se Petitioner

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

HEATH W. GRAY,  
Appellant

v.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Respondent

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF VERIFICATION**

In accordance with 18 Pa.C.S. §4904 relating to unsworn false statements made to authorities, I assert the facts in my Writ of Certiorari is true and correct to the very best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

12-30-25

Respectfully Submitted

*Heath W. Gray*

Pro se Appellant  
Heath W. Gray FP-0237  
PA/DOC, SCI GREENE  
175 Progress Drive  
Waynesburg, PA 15370

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

HEATH W. GRAY,  
Appellant

v.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Respondent

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

In accordance with the Public Access Policy of the United Judicial System, I do Certify that my Writ of Certiorari complies with the provisions of this policy to the very best of my knowledge, information, and belief as an inept pro se prisoner Appellant who begs this Honorable Supreme Court for some leeway and goodwill in my quest to exercise my right of suffrage.

Respectfully Submitted

Date: 12-30-25

Heath W. Gray

Pro se Appellant  
Heath W. Gray FP-0237  
PA/DOC, SCI GREENE  
175 Progress Drive  
Waynesburg, PA 15370

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

HEATH W. GRAY,  
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Respondent

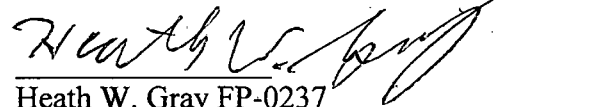
No. \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF VERIFICATION**

In accordance with 18 Pa.C.S. §4904 relating to unsworn false statements made to authorities, I assert the facts in my REVISED WRIT OF CERTIORARI is true and correct to the very best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Date: 1-18-2026

Sincerely,



Heath W. Gray FP-0237  
PA/DOC, SCI GREENE  
175 Progress Drive  
Waynesburg, PA 15370

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

HEATH W. GRAY,  
Appellant

v.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Respondent

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

In accordance with the Public Access Policy of the United Judicial System, I do Certify that my REVISED WRIT OF CERTIORARI complies with the provisions of this policy to the very best of my knowledge, information, and belief as an inept pro se prisoner Appellant who begs this Honorable Supreme Court for some leeway and goodwill in my quest to exercise my right of suffrage.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1-18-2026

Sincerely,

*Heath W. Gray*

Heath W. Gray FP-0237  
PA/DOC, SCI GREENE  
175 Progress Drive  
Waynesburg, PA 15370

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

HEATH W. GRAY,  
Appellant

v.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Respondent

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

In accordance with Pa.R.A.P. 1514(c), I do Certify I am sending a true and correct copy of my REVISED WRIT OF CERTIORARI to the Attorney General's office at the address listed below on or about this date via the United States Postal Service's Priority Mail.

Brett Thomas Graham  
Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General  
1600 Arch St., Suite 300  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Date: 1-18-2026

Sincerely,



Heath W. Gray FP-0237  
PA/DOC, SCI GREENE  
175 Progress Drive  
Waynesburg, PA 15370