

Carol Robertson

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To: Carol Robertson
Subject: HB2112

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Hello,

I am writing in regards to HB 2112.

I have worked in a group home and as a child welfare case management provider. I am fortunate to have worked for an agency that truly tried to ensure we did our best to follow the rights of foster care children being discussed in this bill. Although, often times, this comes down to the case manager and the effort they put into their cases. Unfortunately, I was carrying forty cases, as were most of my teammates. This means five case managers, with thirty to forty cases were trying to work the adoption process for each child. Most of the cases for our teen clients were stuck at the first step- finding adoptive resources. For our teen clients, this can be difficult, due to trauma, the inability to find placement (again due to acting out due to trauma), refusal to attend school, sometimes juvenile criminal charges. All of these things weigh down a case manager, and while some case managers will ask for help and still do their best to make ethically correct decisions- more often than not, most case managers will let their caseloads fall. They begin to complain about the clients, the cases, they don't care to speak to these children, to follow court orders, to assist the children in finding ways to get them to attend school. Most case managers are not social workers, meaning that they are not held to the standards set by the NASW, and have no obligation to make morally or ethically correct efforts and decisions. By putting this bill into law, it would ensure that these standards are met, as there would be a legal standard to follow. I truly hope this bill passes, it would bring a new generation of case management, an era of truly trying to meet these standards.

Thank you,
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St. Francis Ministries