From: judith armatta
To: DeJong Annola
Subject: HB 2552
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2013 12:57:18 PM

Honorable Chair Barker, Members of the Committee:

I urge your support of HB 2552, which would eliminate the obligation to report as a sex offender for young people under 16 years of age at the time of the offense.

Research has shown that our brains continue the development process until about age 26 and that judgment is one of the last areas to fully develop. We all know that youth are risk takers, often without regard for consequences. Many of the sex crimes committed by youth are experimentation rather than intentional acts meant to harm another. Being labeled a sex offender for life and required to report has ruined many a young life without making our communities one whit safer. HB 2552 is a good effort to correct this injustice.

Please support HB 2552.

Respectfully,

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