

Submitter: Beth Fitzpatrick

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure: SB548

As a Certified Child Life Specialist working in the hospital, I have encountered many children being placed in foster care from the hospital.

Being placed in foster care many times gives the message to the child that the child is not wanted. It can send the message that they aren't good enough. When a child has their possessions placed in a garbage bag the message they receive is that 'they too, are disposable, just like a garbage bag'.

At a time when a child's world has been turned upside down, providing a duffel bag to transport the few belongings these children are able to take with them, is crucial.

The message that having a duffel bag for belongings provides is that these children have something that is theirs. A possession. They have a secure place to store and transport their limited possessions.

Please support this bill. Let children in foster care know that they are 'not disposable'.

Support them in having something of their own at a time when everything else has been taken away. Let them have a secure way to transport their limited possessions.

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Certified child life specialist/Advocate/Volunteer