

Submitter: Miranda Gilly  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services  
Measure: SB557

Hello,

My name is Miranda Gilly. I wanted to send in a letter for support for this measure because it can and will change so many lives. This program will allow so many people like me - who have endured a lot of trauma and past abuse and have had to fight to stay alive today. When you are entered into the system of foster care and in the hands of DHS DCFS or any agency from the state they are suppose to support you from day one.

I was in foster care more than ten years of my life.

Those years have changed me forever - and from growing up from a traumatized world and being brought into another where your suppose to survive - buy clothes for yourself - food - learn how to drive - save for college or an apartment for when you get older - go to therapy get married have finances in the bank and find dental and healthcare it's all overwhelming to somebody who had no support there whole life. If I was granted the funds that were being issued to me years ago that were suppose to help me as child to adult I would be better off truly. This grant will provide a life I never knew or had or possibly thought about having.

As a foster kid I wore the same clothes - still have the same clothes since elementary and high school.

Nobody granted me funds for clothes so wearing what I had was what I had - no money to buy clothes from the state were issued to me as a kid even when I grew up to being a teenager and older.

I didn't have money for food - I had diet restrictions found out I was lactose intolerant and got sick a lot from being forced to eat dairy in foster homes and being abused if I didn't finish my plate and excuse myself when done with my meal.

This grant could have provided me with funds to go to therapy and pay to see a therapist - to work on my conditions, who was not mandated by the state and would just jot down what you say and give no time to care about who you are or what you've been through as a person.

This grant could have provided me a start. A start to create a new life for myself and the life I wanted as a kid. This grant will create change for kids across the world who are just like me - growing up at a young age with nothing but the clothes on there backs and will in there hearts to fight for the injustice this world.

This grant will create a movement so powerful and so impactful for our most vulnerable youth in the world - effectively changing the course of there future life - instead of them being forced to be trapped in a life they were given, to begin with.

This bill will surpass every negative action or thought the system has imprinted on each individual - and shed light on a historical moment in time forever.

This bill will save lives and lives to come.

And passing it will change the course of my life it will allow me to choose - who I wanna be and where I'm going forever. I will continue to do what's right and stand up for people like me who lost the voice they needed when the time came into place to speak.

This bill will be life changing and this bill will change our world - and I'm in full support of it.

Thank you to everyone and Sara G for such an amazing opportunity and all her hard work and dedication. I was happy to share a little bit of what I had to go through - how far I've come and where I'm headed in this life. I am extremely honored to get to be apart of something that I didn't know existed and this has deeply awakened, my soul to fight for the change needed in this world every day.

Thank you for your time and all of the efforts put fourth in order for this to happen and I thank you to those who have supported this bill with all my heart - without you, we wouldn't be moving forward.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
Miranda Gilly