

Submitter: Robert Owen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: SB865

To whom it may concern,

I must strongly object to SB865, an attempt to shove through new rules when no one is looking, because it guts "best interests of the child" protections. This proposed legislation strips DHS of the ability to place a foster child with the current caretaker even if it's in the best interest of the child and instead may require DHS to place the child with strangers the child has never met thereby causing more trauma and disruption to already vulnerable children.

If this statute had been in place when our son was in foster care, we would not have been considered a resource family even though we were the only permanency he had known. Shame on anyone who votes for this legislation that downgrades, sidelines and ignores what is in a child's best interest.