

Submitter: David Rowley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3196

As a CASA volunteer I have witnessed first hand the big difference CASA's make in children's lives.

Evidence-based studies show children with a CASA access more trauma-informed services like mental health counseling, are less likely to be expelled, have significantly fewer foster placements, and are half as likely to re-enter the child welfare system than children without a CASA.

Federal VOCA cuts have meant/or would mean the elimination of CASA staff positions statewide, limiting the ability to recruit, train, and supervise nearly 1,600 volunteers and denying thousands of children who have suffered abuse or neglect access to a CASA advocate.

Please adopt the - 1 Amendment that includes CASA Programs and pass the bill out of committee. Thank you!