

Submitter: Mavis Cloutier

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3196

I am a CASA for a 10 year old for whom I was also his CASA when he was a baby until he was returned to father and the case was dismissed. The intervening 5 years were not kind to him, He suffered from neglect, verbal abuse, physical abuse and possibly sexual abuse. We are now trying to undo some of these terrible things done to him during that time. We are working with Children's Advocacy Center and many other services. As a CASA I am a consistent person who has been with him since his re-entry at age 8, That is why CASAs are so very important. We are there for the duration while case workers often change. I have been a CASA for more than 16 years and receive back even more that I give.

I'm asking you to adopt the -1 amendment that includes CASA programs and pass the bill out of committee.