

Submitter: Rylan Bottrell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3196

During my time at CASA, I have seen extremely vulnerable children enter the foster care system. These children have experienced extensive trauma and instability, and lack a typical support system. Minors typically have parents that are heavily invested in their well-being and success -- minors that are a part of CASA often lack this kind of support. They are not adults, but also can not rely on a parent.

This is why CASA is so essential for these children. CASA has no outside motivations other than supporting our children. We are here to advocate for the child's best interest. We conduct home visits, monitor progress, and attend court hearings to ensure that our kids and teens have their needs represented. We get to know our kids and their stories in order to identify their individual needs. Some of these children have never had this kind of individual support or attention. CASA makes a difference.

Please adopt the -1 amendment that includes CASA programs and pass the bill out of committee.