

Submitter: Carol Adrienne Simmons

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3196

I'm a CASA volunteer in Jackson County. The foster children I support have been removed from their homes due to substance abuse and domestic violence. ODHS case workers do their best, but they have very high caseloads and aren't able to give the individual attention to the needs of these children the way a volunteer CASA can. I've experienced first hand the way a CASA can effectively advocate for a child in foster care to give them the best chance of thriving, and out of the juvenile and adult court system. This is truly an example of an ounce of prevention being worth a pound of cure...something I hope is supported by both our Republican and Democratic elected officials. Please adopt the 1 amendment that includes CASA programs and pass the bill out of committee.