

Submitter: Doug Kenfield
On Behalf Of: CASA
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3196

We CASA's are the eyes and ears for the court to help them make good decisions on the fate of our children in foster care. We volunteer our time and efforts to help these children navigate the tortuous path through permanency decisions which will decide their future. In the past 4 years, I have helped a 9 month-old boy born loaded with drugs find a nurturing home which will provide opportunities for him to have a good future rather than life on the streets with his drug-addicted parents. Currently I am helping a 15 year-old struggle to find a new home after a life of abandonment and rejection by biological parents and adoptive parents. We are close to placing him with a maternal aunt who will give him a loving home. This probably would not have happened without a CASA's intervention.

Children in foster care need every effort we can provide to help them overcome the tragic beginnings to their lives. Success will provide them and Oregon a fruitful and productive future.

Please support HB 3196 and help give these kids the best chance possible for a life of choice.