

Submitter: Jim and JoAnn Griffin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3196

To Whom It May Concern:

My wife and I have been CASAs in Marion County for 14 years at this point. Over these years we have usually worked on four to five cases at a time, so by now, we have been involved in numerous cases. Except for two, all the other cases ended well, and we strongly believe a certain part of that is because of the involvement of the CASA program. As CASAs we have gotten into many resource homes and found most all of them to be run quality people. Our regular visits with the children have helped the children to know that they have a friend and an advocate who is looking out only for their best interests. We have travelled to Idaho and Washington when foster kids we were monitoring were being considered for adoption. This is something the caseworkers couldn't do, but we were glad to do it to make sure the homes met ODHS and CASA standards, and the kids would be in good hands. Having made many, many visits to resource homes, to CRB meetings, to court, to schools, and communicated with counselors and medical professionals--all the while spending our own dime--we would do it all over again because we so value the CASA program.

Thank you considering providing more funding to such a worthy program!

Jim and JoAnn Griffin