

Angie Lake

From: Elizabeth J. Agius <ad2634@wayne.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2014 12:43 PM
To: Angie Lake
Subject: Testimony regarding HB 5775

Please accept this statement as testimony to the committee:

Identity theft is a crime that poses threats to everyone, but for many it is a crime that can be handled. When it happens to the most vulnerable in society, the havoc it causes is more than an inconvenience. I came to know a young woman in foster care recently. I am often shocked by the conditions that these wards of the state are left in; many with uncaring adults, little to no supervision, no one to advocate for them, let alone love and care for them. I realize that the physical resources to care for so many children are hard to come by, however, where we can, it is incumbent upon us to make their lives better. One important thing we must do in a civil society is to stop the re-victimization of children abandoned or removed from their families. Identity theft puts children and young adults who are already in need, further behind in life; so much so that many can never recover. If our goal is to promote healthy, independent adults, we must do what we can to prevent young people from becoming victims of the fraud of identity theft. We must speak for those who are most vulnerable. The god of the old and the new testament instructs us to not oppress the poor and vulnerable - but to speak for them in His stead.

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