



House Corrections and Juvenile Justice

HB 2779

March 14, 2012

My name is Bruce Linhos and I am the director of the Children's Alliance. On behalf of our member agencies I appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 2779.

The Children's Alliance

The Alliance is the association of private child welfare and juvenile justice agencies. We represent a broad continuum of service providers who offer a diverse menu of services designed to respond to the needs of our state's most vulnerable youth. Services range from foster care and emergency services through residential care and psychiatric residential treatment. Members also provide services to older youth in need of housing transitional assistance.

HB 2779

The Children's Alliance supports the intent of HB 2779. Human trafficking is estimated to impact more than 100,000 children annually in the United States. This bill would provide needed options for providers and a broader access to services to those victims of human trafficking. Specifically, the Human Trafficking fund would expand placement resources as well as treatment interventions.

In addition to supporting this bill, we ask the committee to review language relative to direct placement by the court to ensure the manner in which it is written does not jeopardize our state's ability to receive Title IV-E, OJJDP or other federal funding that can help serve this at risk population.

Bruce Linhos
Executive Director

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