Barbara Moore

From:

Christina Smith <christinaleesmith3310@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 11:29 AM

To:

Barbara Moore

Subject:

Only written testimony for House Bill 2021

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Christina Smith, Sedgwick County Mom

Dear Senator Kellie Warren and the committee on judiciary:

I am a single, physically disabled mom of three sons. I believe in grace AND accountability. My testimony is in favor of house bill 2021.

On September 3rd, my 15-year-old son shoved me up against the wall. When I tried to call 911 for assistance, he grabbed my phone and threw it extremely hard across the room where it went through the wall. I was four days postop on crutches, non-weight bearing, and my surgery knee was locked in extension. After his display of irrational anger and intent to harm me, I removed myself from our living room to my bedroom. My oldest son, who at the time was 6'1 and 170 pounds, pushed past my 70-year-old mother to continue attacking me. After he yelled that if I were going to report him for assault, he would show me assault. He violently and repeatedly kicked my knee until the steel brace was bent out of shape and my 70-year-old mother and my younger two sons pulled my oldest off me. As of March 2023, the surgeon who had revised my ACL surgery on August 30 of 2022 informed me that when my son had repeatedly kicked my knee four days after surgery, he had torn the meniscus. The surgeon also informed me the knee had no meniscus issues the day of the surgery and now after my son's attack my knee now required another surgery to repair damage done willfully by my child. This attack occurred after ensuring that my son received every service for mental health, behavioral, and disability services offered by and qualified for in Sedgwick County. Services have always been continuous in the last eight years. Please put common sense back into the law and amend the bad bill that was passed in 2016.

Sincerely, Christina Smith,

A single, physically disabled, hardworking, Sedgwick County mother