

March 6, 2024
Adina Morse
Verbal Testimony in Support of HB 2536
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

Chairperson Gossage and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony in support of HB 2536, the SOUL Family Legal Permanency Option.

I am here today as an adopted child, an attorney, and a mom of two amazing children, ages 17 and 21.

In my work as an attorney, I worked with families on parenting plans, cutaway issues, and guardianships and conservatorships. I see the need for the SOUL Family Legal Permanency Option through this lens because in our society, we are all defined by our families - immediate, extended, and chosen.

As an adopted child, I know the pain of losing my biological family. The SOUL Family Legal Permanency Option presents an opportunity to spare other children from this pain.

And, as a mom, my children need me in many ways as they navigate young adulthood. SOUL Family Legal Permanency Option would give other children the support and guidance that I am privileged enough to be able to give my children.

And finally, the SOUL Family Legal Permanency Option was developed by incredible young leaders based on their experiences, and designed by them to meet their needs.

For all of these reason, I fully support of the SOUL Family Legal Permanency Option, and urge you to do the same.

Thank you.