



**Statement of Cynthia Anderson Able
before the Senate Judiciary Committee
Hearing on SB 26-149 on April 13,
2026**

Good Afternoon,

My name is Cynthia Anderson Able. I am here on behalf of my Mom, Barbara, who here in the chamber, and Yvette Edmunds, who could not be here today. Both were victims of Solomon Galligan in 2021.

My Mom and Yvette asked that I show you photos of them. They want you to look closely at the photos and consider them and all the victims when making a decision on this legislation. These photos were taken after they found themselves face to face with Galligan who came out of nowhere and beat them in the face, seriously injuring them not only physically, but mentally.

These assaults could have been prevented were THERE proper resources, but, sadly THERE WERE NOT. At the time the assaults occurred, Galligan had been granted out of custody restoration and was free to roam the community.

Galligan was declared incompetent in 2022 and 2023 and seven assault cases filed throughout the state were dismissed. Victims were told that Galligan would be committed to a mental health care facility and would get proper care. That did not happen.

Galligan was released back out into the community in late 2023. Within a few months, Galligan assaulted someone again. Galligan was supposed to appear for mental healthcare on April 16th of 2024 but did not show up for reasons unknown. On April 19th, Galligan showed up at a schoolyard in Aurora, where he victimized a group of children and an entire community. Again, had there been proper resources, had Galligan been kept in a proper facility, this would not have happened.

As victims, WE IMPLORE YOU, to pass SB 26-149 into law. It is the beginning of a long process that we hope will ensure that defendants get proper care, that victims get some degree of justice and that the public can be safe in their community.

I thank you for allowing victims the opportunity to be heard. And, again, I want to recognize my Mom and Yvette and all victims and say "WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU MATTERS" and I hope that the legislators recognize that and take appropriate action.