

A

Thank you for allowing me to testify on HB1024

My name is D'borah Israel I'm here today because this bill is important to the foster youth that have been separated in care.

I was in fostercare since I was 2 years old an I felt systematically oppressed by generational curses being that I was taken from my mother at a young age with 8 brothers 4 sisters. if they went to family how come I didn't? I currently am in school for CNA hoping to be a midwife one day and working with younger youth has allowed me to see how children interact with affection from family and support with those that love them.

I read an article that statedIn 2010, researchers at Duke University Medical School found that babies with very affectionate and attentive mothers grow up to be happier, more resilient, and less anxious adults. The study involved about 500 people who were followed from when they were infants until they were in their 30s. When the babies were eight months old, psychologists observed their mothers' interactions with them as they took several developmental tests.

The psychologists rated the mother's affection and attention level on a five-point scale ranging from "negative" to "extravagant." Nearly 10 percent of the mothers showed low levels of affection, 85 percent demonstrated a normal amount of affection, and about six percent showed high levels of affection.

With that being said my experiences in Foster Care not all of them were great I even experienced going to the Chafee event with my nieces I was not informed that they were in care an it broke my heart to be able to see them placed in homes with those they don't know. Then later to find out my nephew had the same probation officer as me only the worst will come to mind thinking about how I was abused by foster parents an given no support when it came to visits with my real family An I don't want that for any other thus moving forward which is why I choose to use my voice to advocate with organizations such as Projects Foster power, Colorado Youth Move, C.A.R.E.S , ElevatingConnections, to name a few Youth voice matter so please vote in favor of HB1024