

Good Afternoon Chairman Brenner, Vice Chairwoman Slaby, Ranking Member Fedor, and Members of the House Education and Career Readiness Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer proponent testimony on Senate Bill 82 today. My name is Wytonya Defreeze; I am Damon Defreeze wife and stepmother to Alianna Defreeze. Alianna is very much my daughter; she has been since she was three years old. She is and will remain very important to me and to our lives. On January 26, 2017 the life we had planned for our daughter Alianna was forever changed, taken away from us because of negligence, a glitch in the system and one of many sexual predators that walk our streets.

When my husband and I received that divesting phone call at 5:30pm on January 26, 2017 that our baby never made it to school that day, the hurt and pain I felt will forever remain in my heart. How could this be, that her loved ones never received a call, a text, a smoke screen or any indication from the school that Alianna never made it. We were told on that day, that specific day January 26, 2017 that there was a glitch in the system, how convenient. Twelve hours had gone by before any of us knew anything and that was only because Ms. Cooper called the school herself to see if Alianna was still there due to parent/teacher conference taking place that day. That's when she was told that Alianna nevermore it to school that day. Immediately we began a search for Alianna. We searched every inch of the city and found nothing. Life as we all knew it had changed forever.

For three days we searched the city. Where could our baby be? This was not like Alianna and we all knew it. We knew something was terribly wrong. However, if the school had notified us of her absence after school began then just maybe our babies' life could have been saved.

But we would never know that now. My husband and I are fighting for Senate Bill 82 and the safety of all children, so that no other family will go through the tragedy and pain that our family had to endure. This is why Senate Bill 82 is essential to the safety of all children and is very important to every parent and every school. Our children are important to us and should be to every one of you.

This could have very well been one of you children's, grandchildren, niece or a family friend.

Our Children are our future and their safety must come first.