



Representative Bill Reineke

HB 508 Senate Finance Sponsor Testimony

June 26, 2018

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Thank you Chairman Oelslager, Vice Chair Manning, and Ranking Member Skindell for allowing me to address House Bill 508.

This program is designed to help young people who recognize their lives are different because of the bad decisions other people in their lives have made for them, parents who do drugs, young kids taking responsibility for their siblings, children witnessing physical abuse, and other unfortunate circumstances.

Those of us who have experienced addictive behavior understand that breaking the cycle is so critical to allowing family cycles to return to normal.

HB 508 is so important because we listened, we are sometimes so critical of young kids, but in this case, these kids need a lifeline to enable them to climb the ladder of success.

We have to help.

These kids have this somewhat figured out

Hope, one of the teenagers from Waverly, who we met and attended the press conference, has a plan laid out, that just fits.

Phlebotomy, certificate, job with training and purpose and cash that she can use to further her education, get a LPN, etc.

In committee it was discussed that we need more money, what about the cause, what about helping kids who want help, who want to crawl out of despair, would not this be a pathway to avoid so many bad things.

This bill allows for collaboration between the college groups and could foster private involvement.

Remember we also need workforce - like phlebotomists.

This is a bill of compassion and I urge your support

Thank you, Mr. Chairman