

To the Senate concerning Bill 278, Ohio Burn Awareness Week

I am the proud great Aunt of Hunter Young. On April 4, 2021 Hunter was at the race track practicing in his sprint car. Unfortunately, his fuel line was punctured. Thank God he was properly dressed with fire resistant clothing, shoes, gloves, helmet and face gear. Ethanol gas filled his boots and caught fire. This type of gas is known as invisible fire, very dangerous. Hunter at the age of 16 reacted quickly, getting out of his car, trying to remove some of his garments. His brother, Aiden saw he was in distress and could tell he was on fire. He called for the paramedics. This incident has changed the racing community with new rules and regulations to have proper equipment available in the drivers car to help if this would happen again. Hunter was life flighted to the hospital. He stayed at Childrens's Hospital for 25 days in the burn unit. He never stopped being positive, polite, grateful to all the staff. He cried slightly, not wanting to hurt his mother. His mother, Tiffany Young never left his side.

His aunt Misty Young stepped up to care for Hunter's 3 siblings, a foster child and her own 2 boys help support her sister Tiffany while she cared for Hunter.

The Young family went through hardship, losing income, not able to work to support Hunter during his hospitalization, on going dr appointments, surgeries, therapy, etc....

During Hunter's stay at Childrens's Hospital, Hunter and his mother noticed many children being alone with no visitors. It was brought to their attention some of these children were in the burn unit due to their parents. Heartbreaking!!!

This sparked a fire in Hunter's soul. The month of December 2021 Hunter collected 205 Christmas gifts to donate to Childrens's Hospital for the burn unit kids. The donations was overwhelming!! Hunter is passionate on this journey and he will continue to collect gifts every year in December.

Hunter was selected to participate in a nationwide burn unit camp in Colorado in August 2021. Over 100 children came together from all over the world. This was a magnificent camp for these children to come together and enjoy one another and share their journey.

Hunter continued going back to the race track after leaving the hospital and helping anyway he could by Flagging races, helping in the tower and supporting other drivers.

They are so many levels of being a burn victim

The burn itself, hospital stays, missing school, missing work, losing income, infections, numerous surgeries, therapy, skin grafts, numerous laser surgery, being on pain medication, therapy, learning to walk again, wearing socks and shoes, having visual scars and internal scars for a lifetime. Thank you for

Supporting Burn victims and their families by honoring them with Ohio Burn Awareness week in February. This helps shine a light on all our Super Heroes with all their beautiful scars that has an extraordinary story of how they survived an horrific event.

Thank you!!!

Sincerely, Novella Bailey

1770 Chillicothe Street

Obetz, Ohio 43207