

House Bill # 2129- In favor

Duanna Red Elk

To: Chairman, vice-chair, and to the members of the committee.

Today I will try not to take up much of your time, My name is Duanna Red Elk and I come on behalf of myself and those who cannot advocate for themselves, they are the unborn.

I would like to speak about Alternatives. I would also like to speak about Empathy. Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another, it means imagining that you are in someone else's shoes. What if, no one had empathy for YOU? What if you did not get a say in the matter of whether you get to live or die? It is said that one out of three women have an abortion in their lifetime. Women were given the gift to birth babies, the right to have a lifetime, the right to have free will. This lifetime of a baby could be spent with their birth parents, it could be spent with a foster family and those that cannot have children and wish and hope that they could have a child. Alternatives, there are more than one possibility.

I urge you, whoever this pertains to, please consider the alternatives. When I was fifteen, I was pregnant, it was not planned, but I am thankful that I considered the alternatives. I am thankful that I choose life for my baby, because he did not get the choice to choose life or death either way. I had alternatives, I was even approached by an adoption agency at the time of giving birth. That was one alternative, I am not saying women should choose life or death for their babies, I am simply asking that you look at the alternatives, be an advocate to those life forms that don't have a say whether they die or survive. I hope that those in charge will provide an appropriation to the Health and Human Services to establish and maintain the alternatives to the abortion program.

Thank you,

Duanna Red Elk