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Dear Members of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees,

I am a resource parent in Baltimore (District 46) and have had the honor of having a fifteen year old in my home for two and a half years. Despite her challenges, she was accepted into a private high school, has played soccer and lacrosse, volunteers with different organizations and has braces currently. As a resource parent in Maryland, I am asking your support for House Bill 369 and Senate Bill 586.

The individuals who spend the most time with children in foster care are the resource parents. We ensure their safety, nurture them, feed them and handle their doctor, therapist, dentist, orthodontist and optomotrist appointments. We listen to their frustations and sources of happiness. We are there for their disappointments and achievements. We are the main person in their day to day to lives.

As an attorney in Maryland, I understand how important witnesses and evidence are in a case. They help a judge to make the best decision in the matter before her or him. This is why this bill is so important to ensure that the best decisions are made for the children in care of the State. I am asking you to support House Bill 369 and Senate Bill 586. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Bailey