Dear Representatives Filler and LaGrand,

I have never taken the time to share my entire testimony but I felt in view of the hearing May 6 2020 regarding HB5679 this might be a good time to bring you both into the life of a sex offender.

I committed my crime with my daughter in 1991, CSC2.

I was given 5 years' probation and informed I could not have any contact with my daughter for any reason. I obeyed the probation laws to the letter but exactly one year later I was charged with the same crime CSC2 against my daughter. I was given a court appointed attorney and his advice was to plead no contest (guilty) and he would make sure I did not see the inside of jail. I received another 5 years' probation which the second judge ran concurrent with the first sentence. So I served 6 years on probation. While this was going on I was going through one of the worst divorces in Oakland County. My friend at that time was the Oakland County Friend of the Court Referee (David Bertucci). He told me that the ex-wife wanted to kill me and we had a female Prosecuting attorney at the time so it made it easy to throw the book at me. I have since regained my relationship with my daughter and she can see wisely how the real picture looks now that she is 38 years old and has 3 kids. While this is happening I am working as a machine tool builder in various shops. At this point because of the fact that I am a contractor no one has felt it important to check my background so work continued without any difficulty. I was later informed that I was considered a Tier 3 offender and that I needed to check in 4 times a year, which I have done without one time being non-compliant. I have always followed the law. In 1996

my boss came on the floor and asked me to join him and the others in the front office as a Recruiter for the machine tool Industry. I did that until 2009 at which time I was hired by Advance Staffing in Livonia to be the General Manager/Project Coordinator. I advanced the sales of the company from 1m to 6m in two years. I retired from this company at the age of 65 and started my own company Power Staffing 47-3652661 in April 2015. Now the problem is that I am an owner and my customers now are checking my background. All of a sudden they got real quiet. Along with the fact that my ex employer was now spreading rumors of my sex offender background my business didn't even get up to $125,000.

After 3 trips to the Philippines I finally asked my current wife to marry me. We met in Costa Rica and got married May 18 2015. Since this date my wife has been working 2 jobs in Japan to help support her entire family in the Philippines. I also support them every month.

My next flight to the Philippines was in Dec 2015. I was required to report to the police 21 days prior to traveling my plans. When I arrived in Manila I was faced with my sheet from the Embassy sharing my background and they refused to allow me to enter the country. I am now on their blacklist. Cost $3,800.

My next flight plan was to go and see my wife in Japan. I had been there 3 times so I felt secure in the fact that it would not be an issue. They refused to let me enter and kept me in prison for the day. They also required me to pay them $300 because they kept me under guard and they felt I should pay for the guards and meals. Cost $4000.

My wife and I wanted to meet because at this point at had been three years so we planned where we got married Costa Rica. In Costa Rica the

U. S. Marshalls came on the plane when we landed in San Jose and took me off. Put me on another plane and flew me back to the states. Cost $3900. My wife was in the hotel and could not see me.

As I was listening to all the testimonies given both pro and con for HB5679 I found that there is much area for improvement. I submit the following for your examination:

1) There is nothing in the current laws that allow a sex offender to get off the registry. No provision for "Individual Consideration"
2) The current laws are not constitutionally just or right. If I was convicted of Manslaughter I would at least have been given parole and would be free to go see my wife in Japan. Please note: I have done nothing illegal in any way during my 30 years on SOR. Not even a parking ticket.
3) No proper Risk Assessment. When I was put on probation I was told I had to attend 10 meetings with the shrink. My shrink at that time (a person approved by the courts) was Mr. Sophiea said that I did not need to see him. He did not understand why I was there. I shared with him it was court ordered. He agreed to make the meetings fast.

Recommendation: When the convict is either on probation or incarcerated he is in the state system. This should be the time when the psychiatrists/counselors should make their evaluations/assessments and then give that feedback to the courts. Is this man a predator or was he caught up in a situation that would according to our current tier system be considered a tier 1.

Let me wrap this up with my current information.

I am a licensed minister, a business owner and grandfather of 8 beautiful kids. I raised a step daughter from age 13 to 18 right in the middle of this horrendous SOR experience. My step daughter would attest to the fact that I have never indicated to her or her mother that I had any propensity toward her sexually in any way. She has grown to be a beautiful woman and has 5 kids.

Now recently I have had to shut down my business due to my background and am having trouble finding work. I will be 70 in August.The Covid 19 is not helping at all. My goal is to travel to the Philippines and retire with my wife. I will need to get off of SOR and get final approval from the Philippine government. I need your help.

I hope this has been helpful for you both. Please feel free to ask me any questions that you have at any time.

Sincerely,

Gregory S. Stratton
On SOR since the beginning