

Dear Representative,

HB 5679 needs to be changed drastically. I am a grandmother of a 5 year old grandson. As grandparents, we have major concerns for the safety of our grandson at school. The fears of bullying, isolation from play groups, and the lack of a male role model during school programs will be missing due to a poor teenage mistake by an uninformed offender. As parents, we watched the total destruction of the offenders life. The offender took responsibility for his actions, and served his prison, parole, and has been fully employed full time since prison release contributing to the State of Michigan with his hard earned tax money. He began his return as a productive individual with a full time job only 9 days after being released from prison. The offenders' hopes were that he could go forward and be an outstanding individual.

Another inaccuracy is that ALL offenders are treated the same. There is no way to prove that you have been reformed by the MDOC. There is extensive counseling and reform for offenders to re-enter society and they are monitored by an ankle tether. The offender in our family was employed full time only 9 days after leaving prison. He has been employed full time everyday since. He has been compliant every day since being released from prison. Even though he is the benchmark of good behavior after rehabilitation efforts of the MDOC, he gets no loosening of restrictions on the SORA. After being on the Sex Offender registry for almost 19 years, compliant and reformed he is treated sub human.

Please hear my voice!!! There are so many innocent victims that lives are traumatized by the State of Michigan's lack of judgement on HB 5679. Listen to the Michigan State Police - they have stated that school zone enforcement is not necessary. Based on extensive data, school safety zones are unnecessary. Now getting back to education... the budget needs to put education FIRST. With the budget deficits, your committee chooses to squander millions, millions to waste time of the MSP. PLEASE change the HB 5679 so the budget dollars from changed to HB 5679 will be funneled into education. Make our schools great again in Michigan.

Thank you,
Cynthia Anderson