

To: Vermont Senate Health and Welfare Committee

From: Cara Capparelli

Date: 2/1/18

Re: Written testimony for S.280

Thank you all for inviting me to testify to your committee. I am responding as the co-facilitator of the Child and Family Trauma Workgroup, which is an open membership public-private partnership of social service workers, and state employees - particularly those from AHS and AOE. We meet monthly to identify initiatives happening throughout the state that aim to prevent and decrease psychological trauma and improve resilience for all Vermont children and their families. We embrace the title of "workgroup" because we are committed to creating action. We have initiated many statewide projects, such as the Building Flourishing Communities effort currently being rolled out.

We are in full support of being included as a voting member of the proposed Child Poverty Advisory Council outlined in S.280. We would welcome the opportunity to provide the Council with a nongovernmental designee from our group.

Thank you for including us in this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cara Capparelli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cara Capparelli, M.A., Licensed Psychologist-Master

Clinical Director, NFI Vermont

Co-facilitator, Child and Family Trauma Workgroup