

Nate Biscotti

From: Ann Schroeder <schroeder.ann@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 3:54 PM
To: Martin LaLonde; Tom Burditt; Angela Arsenault; Kari Dolan; Alicia Malay; Thomas Oliver; Barbara Rachelson; Nate Biscotti; Ian Goodnow; Zachary Harvey; Kevin Christie; Kenneth Goslant
Subject: [External] In support of H.2, An act relating to increasing the minimum age for delinquency proceedings

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[External]

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee and the Committee Assistant,

I am writing in support of H.2, An act relating to increasing the minimum age for delinquency proceedings.

Please ask the Committee Assistant to add this to the record. Thank you.

H.142 of the last session had more sections. This bill has been simplified to just increase the minimum age at which a child may be subject to juvenile delinquency proceedings from 10 to 12.

I am surprised that Vermont is behind the curve on this. Over the past few years, California, Massachusetts, and Utah, have each set the highest minimum age for juvenile court jurisdiction at 12 years old. And in 2021, even Mississippi set the age at 12.

The National Juvenile Justice Network (NJJN) calls on all states to set a minimum age of prosecution of no lower than 14-years-old in accordance with the standards set forth by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

According to the NJJN, processing and confining children in the juvenile justice system is not only traumatic but it exposes them to damaging collateral consequences, including physical and sexual abuse, suicide, disruptions to mental and physical development, and barriers to education and employment.

Please support H.2. Thank you.

Ann Schroeder
Dummerston, Vermont

This message has originated from an **External Source**. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.