

Roberta DiMezza

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My sister and I are victims/survivors of extreme child abuse. This abuse went on undetected for 12 years. Harter's law will bring my sister and I no justice. We have passed even the 35 years stated in H7431.

But... if this bill becomes law it will bring a sense of relief to us that something is being done. A new generation of children will be able to have the help that we both so needed over 45 years ago.

The damage done by child abuse, destruction dealt by the very people who are supposed to love you and keep you safe is life altering. Most definitely not in any good way, it destroys your confidence and fills you with sadness and anger for the rest of your living days.

When you get away, make it out of the hell, you are not emotionally ready. You are still deathly afraid of your abusers, in denial and so very angry. Essentially you deny what happened to you. Lets be honest that denial is way to cope with the damage that was done.

It takes year to admit what happened to you and even think that there is justice out there in the world that can help you deal with the scars of your youth. For me personally, it took many years to actually speak of what had been done to me. I would say bad things had happened, not what happened. I have come forward now and hope that my words can help get this bill passed into law.

This statement is being written in support of H7431 in the hopes to make someone understand the plight of abused children.

David Leroy Harter Finch

Author of "Here There Be Monsters"