

Representative Jeff Barker
March 6, 2017

RE: HB 2598

Dear Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Claudia Argo. 2 days after my 40th birthday my husband Kevin was killed in a motorcycle accident. He was only 39 years old. We have three amazing kids. Kristina is our oldest, she is 13 now and 12 when he passed. Phoenix my boy is 10. And our little baby Isabel is 7 but was 6 at the time. Kevin was an amazing father. He did everything for our kids. He spoiled them rotten. He had an amazing way to teach them about life. It was amazing to see him in action. The way he talked to them and taught them about life, I now realize that he was preparing them for life without him.

Kevin lived like to the fullest. He knew all too well that life was short. His own mom died when he was 7, she was 33. He was about 6 weeks from his 40th birthday. My biggest fear in all of this is that my kids will not remember him, just like he had very few memories of his mom.

Now as a widow with 3 kids I have to struggle through life without my partner. Not only do I have to work full time but I also have to take care of our kids. I want to keep their lives as normal as I can. Which means that I drive here and there to get them to their practices. I have to help with homework, cook, do laundry, take care of the yard, the dogs, the chickens, and our house all without Kevin. I also have to take the kids to counseling and to the doctor because of anxiety. I have to listen to my oldest cry and yell that she wants her daddy. I have to listen to my boy throw things out of anger. I have to watch my baby rock on the floor holding the picture of her daddy.

All this because a truck driver didn't take the time to look and stop for my husband who was driving his motorcycle on his way home from work. On his way home to his family.

The truck driver is still driving. In fact he kept driving the next day. He took Kevin's life in an instant and yet he wasn't even issued a traffic citation.

My husband was a very safe and experienced driver. In my opinion the truck driver that hit him was reckless, yet he has had no consequences for his actions. This is why I am here to show support for House Bill 2598.

Thank you

Claudia Argo
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