

Submitter: Leah Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure: SB548

I support SB548 because I am a resource parent and have seen many children come into my home with their belongings in garbage bags or plastic shopping bags. Out of 17 placements in the last 4 years, I have only seen a handful of children arrive with their belongings in a duffle bag, backpack, or suitcase. These children deserve better. It shouldn't fall on the resource parents to go out and purchase appropriate bags and containers to carry their items. Backpacks and duffle bags can be used for school or for overnights at respite so they are multi-functional. Lets give these kids some dignity at a time when they are going through so much trauma and grief. This is really only one small thing we can do for them, and it's the least we can do. It's sad that we have to create a bill because ODHS will not make this a policy on their own.