

LOUIS E. RUIZ
REPRESENTATIVE, 31ST DISTRICT
2914 W. 46TH AVE.
KANSAS CITY, KS 66103
(913) 262-1634

OFFICE:
STATE CAPITOL
TOPEKA, KS 66612
(785) 296-7122



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMERCE, LABOR & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS—RANKING MINORITY
JOINT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH POLICY
OVERSIGHT

May 16, 2017

Chairman Barker,

Fed and State Committee;

RE: HB2425, Adrian's Act

Chairman Barker, members of the committee,

The horrendous treatment of the little seven-year-old boy, Adrian Jones, ripped at the hearts of not only my community, the State of Kansas but the country. This helpless child suffered atrocities at the hands of his biological father, step mother and was witnessed by an adult family member residing in the home.

I viewed the film along with members of the KSHB Channel 41 news crew, and saw an adult male member of the household, identified as an uncle, walking around the house while little Adrian was hiding from him and trying to get a drink of water. I saw pictures of Adrian with cuts on his face and body, helpless and hopeless for his short life to change.

HB2425 creates an avenue for accountability that mandates an adult member of the household to report and possibly intervene during a perpetration of child abuse, hopefully not to the level of the atrocities Little Adrian suffered.

We have passed legislation to protect children from violent abusive situations. It is time to add another level of protection to hopefully prevent this situation from ever happening in the future.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Louis E. Ruiz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "R".

Louis E. Ruiz

Representative #31