My name is Melanie Courtier I am a life long resident of Lansing. I would like to share with you the nightmare our life has become since the legal system of this State destroyed our family. Our 3 grandchildren were placed in foster care without due process. Unproven allegations were made in November the children were suddenly removed from their home in January, but obviously there was no imminent danger to the children or they would have been removed sooner. They were moved from Lansing in March. We were not informed of their whereabouts and had no contact with them until May. We had no where to turn for support and information was difficult if not impossible to obtain. Last week we had our 2nd monthly 2 hr visit with them this is our families first experience with the horror of our legal system and we feel we have no voice and our helpless. My hope today is to spare another family from going through this horrific experience. There are now 6000 legal orphans in the State of Mi. We understand some children must be removed from harm's way, however there are many more who have unjustly been removed without due process. My fear is that because of the low threshold of proof in Michigan, many more children will become legal orphans. So please consider remember our grandchildren in foster care in Kentucky because all the foster homes in the greater Lansing area are

at capacity along with rest of the
the 6000 other legal orphans.