

Dear Sen Maxim and members of the Criminal Justice Committee,

My name is Lorie. I am a resident of Auburn, and a woman in recovery.

It was an April morning in 2020, when I received a text from my son, 'Kenzies dead'. I felt a wave of sadness, loss, guilt, anger and emptiness within.

Kenzie Chamberlain won my heart at 6 years old. Her smile would light up the room. Her sass was frustrating, but it was her. Her laugh was not only beautiful to hear but was infectious. She had a future awaiting her. My son's best friend died a week before her 22nd birthday.

Kenzie had overdosed. While her life hung in the balance of time, those that were there 'cleaned up' the scene before calling for help, and then they left. That day, my friend lost her daughter, my son lost his best friend.

What this says to me, is that the 'others' did not want trouble for themselves. Kenzie died while 'others' were protecting themselves.

The lack of protection of the Good Samaritan Law needs emergency attention. How many more best friends, daughters need to die before we as a state make changes to protect them.

I am in support of the Good Samaritan bill and hope that this legislation will also support it. No more need to die because of fear.

Thank you for your time today.

Lorie Paddleford