

STATE OF KANSAS



TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

OLETHA FAUST-GOUDEAU  
SENATOR, 29TH DISTRICT  
PO BOX 20335  
WICHITA, KANSAS 67208  
316-652-9067  
Office: STATE CAPITOL BUILDING—124-E  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612  
(785) 296-7387  
(SESSION ONLY) 1-800-432-3924  
email: Oletha.Faust-Goudeau@senate.ks.gov  
Oletha29th@aol.com

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Good Morning,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 81.

The proposed changes to current law would merely require the court to find that no viable relative exists who would be willing and approved to adopt the child, prior to the child being adopted by someone else, unless the adoption by any relatives would not be in the best interest of the child. The language proposed clarifies that all viable relatives should first be considered for adoption before anyone else could adopt that child, so long as it is in the child's best interest.

I hear from relatives who believe that they are placed on the same footing as any other person when a decision is being made on who will adopt their relative.

Thank You for your consideration of SB 81.

Senator Oletha Faust- Goudeau

Senate Judiciary

3-8-11

Attachment 1