

**ZION
BAPTIST
CHURCH**



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Brian C. Herron, Pastor

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To Senate Heath and Human Services

From Pastor Brian Herron Sr.

I'm writing urging you to act on and support the Minnesota African American Family Preservation Act (SF716)

This is a very important bill for our state, our community, and cities as a whole.

Child welfare disparities harm African American children. Black children are overrepresented at every stage of child protection services. The Minnesota African American Family Preservation Act provides a package of tools for systemic change.

This has historic context and significance in our City... question is why do we even have to fight for this?

With all the studies and disparities that show our community is disproportionately impacted in every way and given the fact that It is always very traumatic for a child not to be with their parent, we lessen the harm when they are placed with a relative over a stranger and particularly those of another culture especially when there are relatives who can provide a loving nurturing space for the child and want to do so.

We are not asking anything unreasonable here, this is for the preservation of Black children and Black families as a whole...I am urging each of you to support this bill.

Respectfully Submitted

Pastor Brian C. Herron Sr.

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