



Monroe County Legislature

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Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County
Committee Assignment
Memorializing Referral

To the Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 Monroe County Office Building
39 West Main Street
Rochester, New York 14614

Re: Memorializing the New York State Assembly to Pass A09567, "A Bill to Enact "Nixzmary's Law," Making the Act of Murdering One's Own Child or Legal Ward, Under the Age of 18, an A-1 Felony, A Crime Punishable by Life Imprisonment without Parole."

Honorable Legislators:

Nixzmary Brown, a seven-year-old girl from New York City, was found dead in her home on Jan. 11, 2006. Authorities claim she was brutally murdered by her stepfather while her mother allegedly ignored the young girl's cries for help. Regretfully, shocking cases of children's deaths have recently occurred in Monroe County as well, such as the horrifying murders of A.J. Gibson and Halle Zacher.

The statistics are alarming. Each day, approximately six children under the age of 18 are murdered in this country. In 2002, according to the United States Department of Justice, 1,570 children age seventeen or younger were the victims of homicide. The devastating impacts of children's deaths on families and communities are immeasurable.

A state legislative proposal sponsored by Assemblywoman Nettie Mayersohn calls for enacting "Nixzmary's Law," which would establish the class A-I felony of aggravated murder of a child for which the sentence shall be life imprisonment without parole. Certainly, the murder of a child is the most horrifying of crimes, and perpetrators must be dealt with promptly and in the most severe manner.

Therefore, we ask our colleagues to join us in memorializing the New York State Assembly to pass A09567, a bill that would make the act of murdering one's own child or legal ward, under the age of 18, an A-1 Felony, a crime punishable by life imprisonment without parole.

This Memorializing resolution shall have no impact on the revenues or expenditures of the Monroe County budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Travis R. Heider
Legislator – District 14

Carla M. Palumbo
Democratic Leader

Stephanie Polowe Aldersley
Legislator – District 16

Edward M. O'Brien
Legislator – District 17

C. Stephen Eckel
Legislator – District 26