

PUBLIC COMMENT: JIM CASHA, 540-717-9240
jim.casha@gmail.com

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS - COMMUNITY HEALTH, CHAIR VER HUELEN
EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION - CH
NICK LYON, DIRECTOR

"THE BEST WAY TO REDUCE THE PRISON POPULATION
IS BY PROPER PRENATAL CARE."

DENNIS SERANTZ, FORMER MDOC DEPUTY DIRECTOR
(AT A HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE MPRI)

PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE IS THE 'GENERATIONAL
POVERTY TRAP'. MANY OF THOSE IN PRISON, ONCE
WERE INNOCENT UNBORN CHILDREN SUBJECTED TO
PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE. MANY, FORMER MI FOSTER KIDS.
AT THE HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON HEALTH POLICY
EARLIER THIS MORNING, ^{AND AGAIN HERE,} I HEARD DIRECTOR NICK LYON
SAY THAT THE GOAL OF THE NEWLY FORMED
MI DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES IS TO
END 'GENERATIONAL POVERTY'.

THERE CAN BE NO BETTER WAY TO ACCOMPLISH
THAT GOAL THAN TO PROPERLY FUND AN
'ALCOHOL PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR PREGNANT WOMEN'.

PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE IS ALSO THE LEADING
CAUSE OF COGNITIVE DISABILITIES. THIS IS WHY
3RD GRADE READING SCORES ARE USED TO ESTIMATE
FUTURE PRISON BED NEEDS.

I RESPECTFULLY ASK THIS COMMITTEE TO MAKE
FUNDING PROGRAMS RELATED TO PREVENTION, AND CARE,
OF PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE A TOP PRIORITY.

PRESSING ON, WITH UNWAVERING FAITH,

