

February 14, 2011

I am writing this letter in support of bill #6142 and bill #6143.

On April 18, 2008 my baby brother Joshua Metell was killed in an untimely crash. He was coming home from brunch on his last day of spring break from Natchaug School where he was a teacher and never made it the rest of the ¼ mile home.

I will never forget the phone call from my mom telling me that my brother was dead. I wanted to unzip my skin and let my soul scream out. Joshua was the definition of a "true" leader. He stood for what was right and just. He was honest and integral. Joshua wanted to see the children's lives changed at Natchaug School. His motivation for becoming a teacher was to make a difference in the children's lives and that motivation/passion spilled out into Willimantic. That is where he started the Thread City 3 on 3 Basketball tournaments. He was a wonderful uncle to my children, buying them books at an early age and computer learning CD's before they could walk. His desire was to see them excel. He would be so proud. Now all they have are slight memories and I have lost the time to grow with him as a dear friend.

If proper laws were in place that fateful day my brother was taken, he would still be alive today. With no stiff laws in place David Vertefuille scoffed at the law one more time and drove a vehicle with a trailer below the crest of a hill across both lanes of traffic, leaving my brother no choice but to collide with a telephone pole.

I beg you to impose these laws regarding driving under a suspended license so people will think twice before getting behind the wheel of a vehicle they have no business being in. In doing so, you will save many families the biggest heartbreak that can never be filled.

Sincerely,

Taysha King (Metell)