Rosemary S. Cushing-King

February 20, 2015

Re: Proposed H.B. No. 5174, Session Year 2015
AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CHILDREN'S STATE FLOWER

I am writing to show my support for the proposed bill to establish establish Michaela Petit's Four-O'Clocks as the children's state flower.

I feel that all children deserve recognition for the unique traits that pertain to childhood; it is such a key time for learning about the world and how it reflects their development. This particular flower represents the importance and value of being a child. What better time in our history to show everyone in the state, and elsewhere, that children are an important and meaningful part of our population. By designating a children's state flower, we would be showing our children that they are valued and cared for.

I can say from personal experience that Michaela Petit's favorite flower, the Four O'Clocks, would be a great choice. Michaela's character embodied qualities that anyone would want to see in the children of the state of Connecticut. During her short life she set an example for all of us about living, loving and caring.

Sincerely,

Rosemary S. Cushing-King