

October 1, 2015

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The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

I believe that it should be against the law to be allowed to raise a child without a background check to assure the child is safe. Many children are raised in abusive homes since they are born. These background checks should take place when the future mother is six months pregnant so if she is not fit to be a mother, Social Services can put the baby up for adoption or foster care when he/she is born. If the mother or father has a 2 year

history of drug abuse, is on the verge of poverty at the 6 month mark, or any record of felonies they should be deemed failed of the background check and Social Services will take custody of the child. Typically, 10% of children grow up with a disability or illness; the statistics are doubled for children of abuse. According to studies, at least seventy percent of reported cases state that substance abuse is the cause of maltreatment. As a concerned constituent, parental background checks should be mandatory to raise their child in an unsuitable home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Olivia Peters". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and legible.

**Olivia Peters**