

-August Brown.

Thank you, Senator, I urge you to please vote yes on SB 156, SB 119, and SB 123.

SB 156 ensures that only legal adults can make the significant decision to get married. This is a serious commitment that a 16 year old cannot understand the impacts of, and therefore ought not be making.

SB 119 removes the cruel and unusual punishment of the death penalty from South Dakota. It is inhumane to take another's life. This is why murder is a crime. While the family members of victims of such crimes have experienced pain that is not to be ignored, as the saying goes "an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind." It is right to ensure that people who cause incredible harm cannot continue to do so. It is not right to remove their right to life.

SB 123 is a great step towards ensuring that victims of assault and rape have access to the resources they need. Unfortunately, not everyone has the privilege of access to affordable medical care. This bill would ensure that regardless of that access at other times, those who need this specific kind of access and support could receive it- and that is vitally important.

Thank you. August Brown <abrown18@ole.augie.edu>