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From: Cynthia Surber [mailto:CSurber3750@student.whatcom.edu]
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 2:30 PM
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September 8, 2020

Dear Justices,

My name is Cynthia "Synth" Surber and I am a current student of the WSBA LLLT Family Law Continuing Education Classes at Whatcom Community College, as well as a Paralegal student there. I transferred from the Tacoma CC Paralegal Pro-Certificate Program and prior to attending TCC I transferred from Lower Columbia College where I received my AA in Business Management & Marketing. I have been on this journey since December of 2018 when I found out about the LLLT path.

As you know by now the Supreme Court of Washington State made an impromptu, non-public vote on one of the most pioneering areas of law since the conception of our great nation. Like the sword of Damocles, the dear Honorable Justices cut the head off when a simple amputation or surgery would have sufficed. To state that the sudden "sunset" to the LLLT program was a shock is to put it mildly.

I do not question why as the answer lies clearly in how this "program" was treated from its inception as the formerly addicted-on methadone for life-relative that everyone else has to put up with, but no one wants to claim in public. But I believe something more primal is what has driven this hastily had order.

It was never about the needs of the people. It was never about creating a vetted Access to Justice portal that would ensure the protection of our most vulnerable underrepresented

populations. It was never about ensuring that the practice of law was done by serious, credentialed individuals that were held accountable to the people they were to serve. No, it is simply *about the money*. Bottomline. Sad.

My family and I have committed to this program for not only the past three years but were fully prepared for the three in the future that was still out there. They have not changed their commitment. I certainly have not.

I am VOX POPULI – the Voice of the People. Who's with me?

Synth "Outrageous" Surber
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Cynthia "Synth" Surber

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