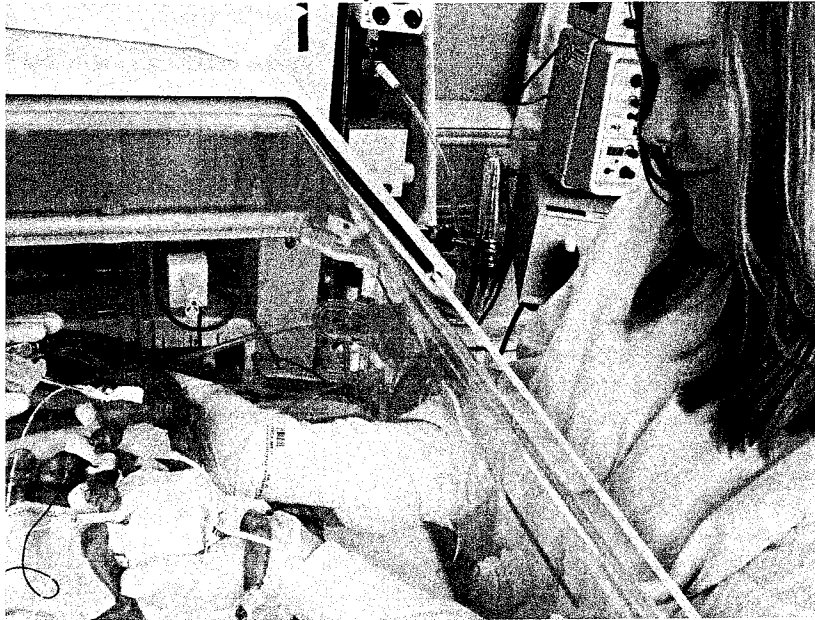


Unborn children are people and deserve the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. They are aware of their surroundings and express feelings and interests in the world outside their womb. They respond to their mothers' voice, music, and mothers' activity at all stages of their lives.

From my own personal experience I witnessed my sons own awareness and interest in his outside world. My son, Holden was born at 25 weeks gestation; an entire 4 months before a normal term delivery.



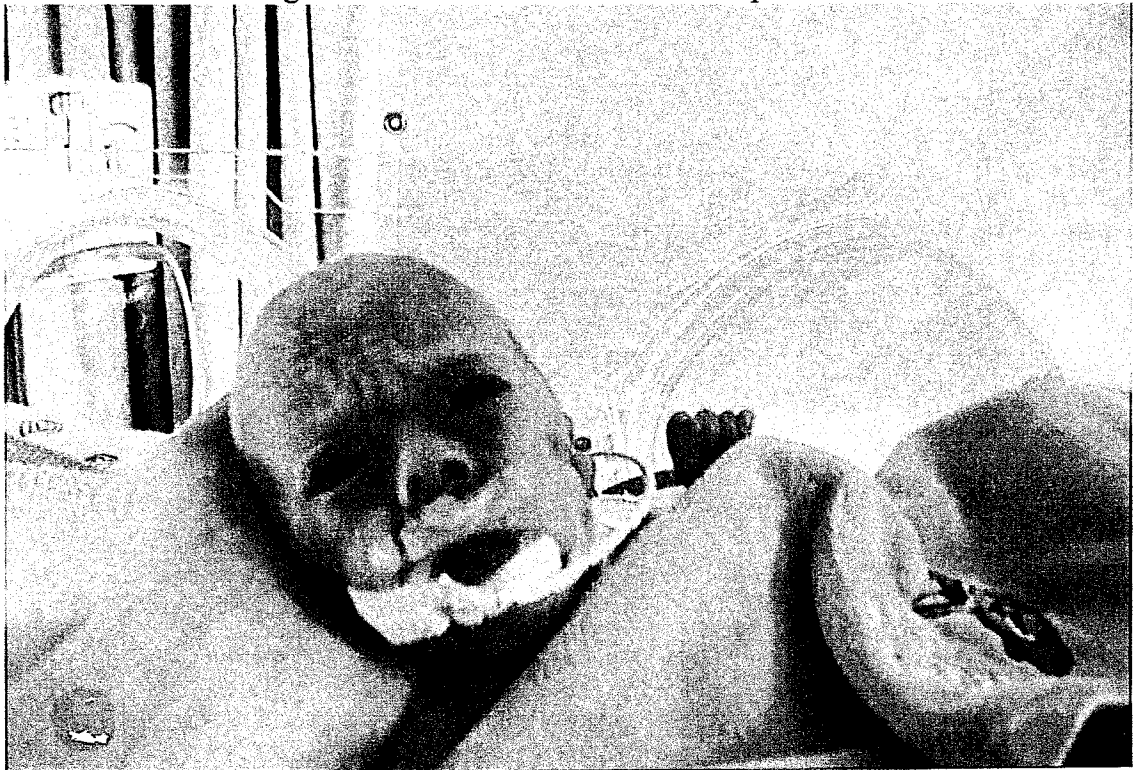
At an age when most babies remain within their mother for another 4 months during the first moments of his birth, he cried out. In the following hours, he responded to his fathers touch and grasped Daddy's finger with his own tiny hand.



From my womb to a tiny incubator, Holden never lost his ability to recognize his parents' voices. Here he turns his head to our voices and stirs with excitement waving his arms and kicking his legs.



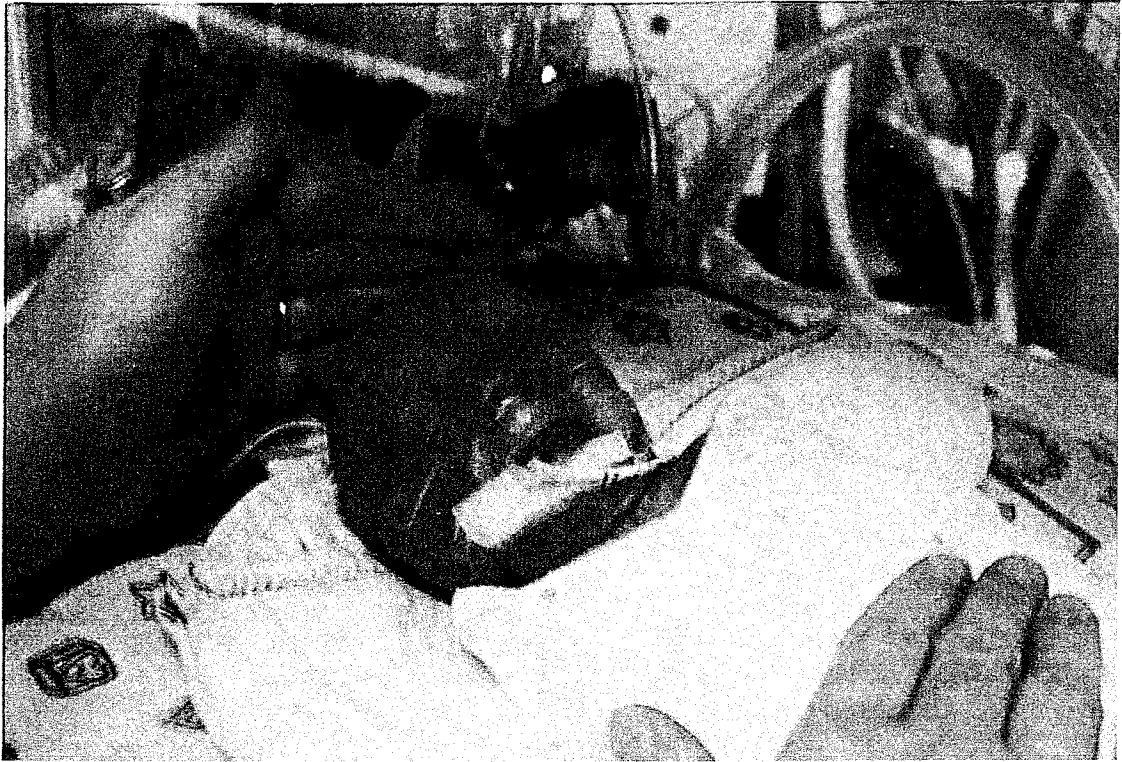
During our visits with Holden, we learned and observed his strong will. He would pull off his mask for breathing as he became uncomfortable and upset.



Nurses who cared for Holden on a regular weekly basis told of Holden's antics. Disgruntled with the noise of shift change Holden would demand close attention. Unhappy and uncomfortable, Holden would simply grab hold of vital medical equipment like leads and oxygen tubes then pull them off.

As the weeks of our stay at the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) stretched into months, my husband and I made a ritual of reading stories to Holden. We read one story

quite often. A storybook entitled Cowboy Dan which soon became Holdie's favorite. When my husband and I were gone overnight, a nurse read Cowboy Dan to a very fussy Holden.

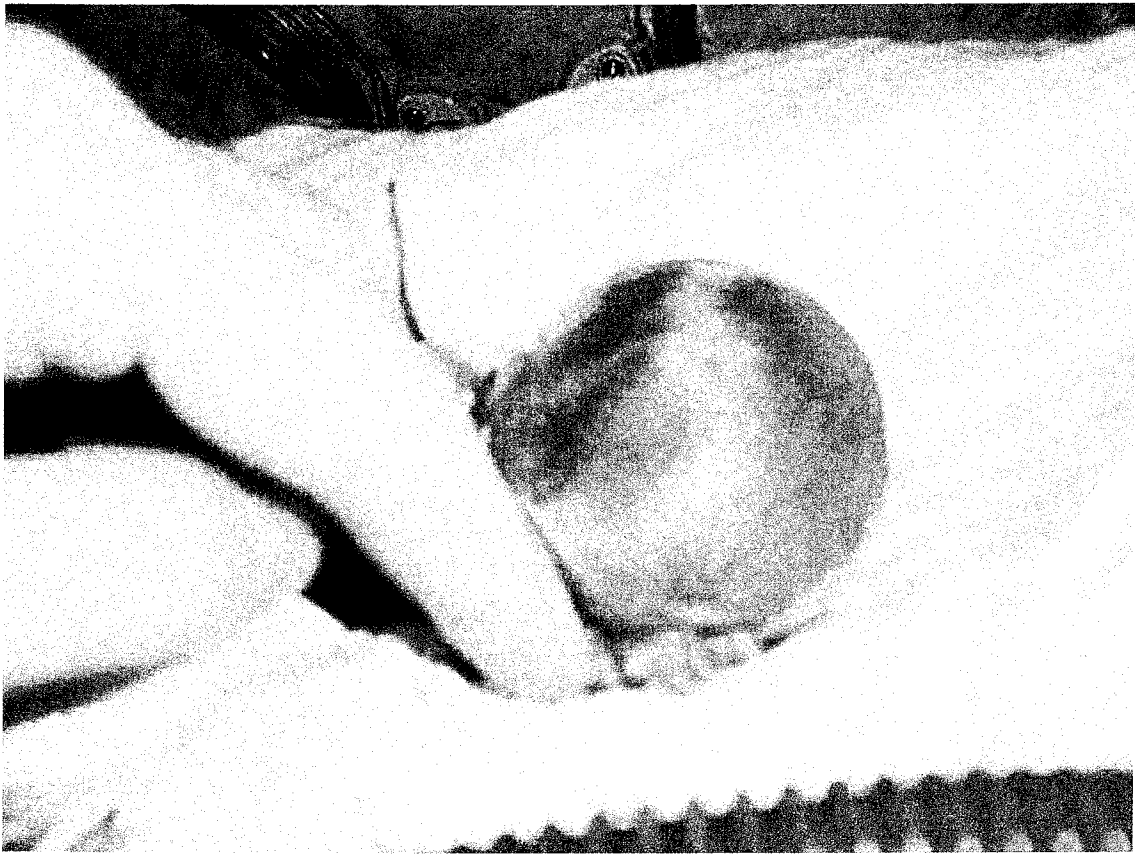


As the nurse accounted to us on our return, "Holden heard his story and settled down immediately". We were shocked. Our little boy was only 2 months old. Phenomenal for a child that wasn't supposed to be born for another 2 whole months!

Every moment in the NICU for 4 months from his first cries after birth to responding to his story, Holden was and is an individual and wanted every opportunity to live life. Holden's development and our experience prove these facts irrefutably. At every stage, everyone deserves every right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.







Wendy Warburton – HD 34 - WARBURTON

My dear friends on the committee.

I respect and care for each one of you so very much, and so...

I'd like to introduce you to a very important PERSON in my life.

[PICTURES]

This is my nephew, Holden. He is almost 3 now, and is a normal, healthy, intelligent, and remarkably athletic little boy. He can already hit a toy baseball with a bat – almost EVERY time!

But he weighed less than ONE pound when he was born. He was born at 25 weeks gestation.

His birthday is coming up on March 22.

He was not supposed to be born until the first week of July!

I was there from the beginning, and I am here today to tell you that Holden IS a person.

And Holden WAS a person even from before the moment he was lifted out of my sister's womb in an emergency c-section, to save her life.

Holden was born to save my sister's life. He did not have to die. She did not have to die.

I went to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in Great Falls to see him almost every day. I could see clearly from day one that he had a unique personality. He was a fighter. He was alert and curious. He craved affection.

This was all before he was SUPPOSED to have been born, by nearly 4 months.

Holden IS, WAS, and always has been, a person.

It is only right and appropriate that the Montana Constitution should recognize that.

