

Planning and Development Committee
Room 2100
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

March 3, 2008

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today
I hope that you support raised bill 493 specifically sec. 4
Permitting municipalities to provide some tax relief to homeowners who have made
modifications to accommodate a disabled family member residing in the home.
This would be a big help for families
It would also be a logical extension of the abatements already granted for retro fitted vehicles
that allows for the transportation of people with disabilities

I am a parent and both of my children were born with severe disabilities.
My husband and I were always committed to keeping our children at home and taking care of
them. As a nurse I always felt qualified to care for them although there care was 24/7 and quite
intense at times.

We never considered placing them in a group home or convalescent home.
The current system seems to pull families in that direction offering programs and funding that is
not available to families who care for members at home.
As you must all be aware, the cost of institutionalization is enormous.
Help to families caring for someone at home is sparse.

As our children grew physically carrying them up and down stairs became difficult and
maneuvering 2 wheelchairs impossible.
We sold our 2 story house and purchased a 1 story home that could be modified to meet there
needs.

My son passed away in June of 06 at the age of 11.
I am now a single mother.
I still have the same commitment to take care of my daughter who is 21 yrs old.
I intend to keep her at home and care for her for as long as I can.

To support us I work nights and weekends to maximize my hourly wage and minimize the
number of hours that I am away from the home.
So far I am able to cover household expenses and provide health insurance for us.
I do however see our household expenses rising.

I know that a property tax abatement would be a great help to our household and my
commitment to keep Sarah at home.

Sincerely



Sandra Lynch