

Testimony Submitted to the Members of the Appropriations Committee

By: Chris Sloss
Parent of a child with special health care needs
February 18, 2009

Senator Harp, Representative Geragosian and esteemed members of the Appropriations Committee:

My name is Chris Sloss of Milford and I am here to testify on bill # 6375

I would like to first thank you for your time and interest in hearing from the public regarding the proposed elimination of various boards and commissions by Governor Rell.

Please DO NOT support the elimination of the Commission on Children.

I am a parent of a child who was born with complex medical needs. Having gone through this life altering experience, I recently began to work in the field of family support. As a parent, I wanted the opportunity to help improve the systems of care for our children. In my work, I have found the Commission on Children to be one of our strongest represented partners who are driven by their passionate concern for all children. The Commission on Children often takes the lead on the Family Support Council when discussing cost and no cost options in meeting the needs of Connecticut's children. The Family Support Council and the families our council represent need the support of the Commission on Children to effectively continue its work.

Children are our future and healthy children are of fundamental importance. The Commission on Children is a key player to the system of care for children with special needs. Please do not eliminate this vital organization who shares information across the full spectrum of agencies, providers and partners in support of the children of CT.

Thanks you.

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