

6668

March 17, 2009

To: Human Services
Re: Raised Bill 6668

Good Morning Senator Doyle, Representative Walker, and members of the Human Services Committee

As a parent with a daughter with a severe physical disability, she hired, managed and, if necessary, terminated her personal assistants for the last 25 years. I strongly oppose Bill 6668.

The duties of the Personal Care Attendant Quality Workforce Council are already being fulfilled by the Allied Community Resources Fiduciary Services, who oversees the various waivers. People with disabilities can take advantage of Allied services that recruit, train, and provide a back-up list of personal assistants. These services are optional. The majority of people with disabilities and their families would rather hire, train and manage their personal assistants because everyone has different preferences and needs. Therefore, the Personal Care Attendant Quality Workforce Council would duplicate services that are being provided by Allied Community Resources Fiduciary Services and should not be established.

In addition by forming the Council, it is taking the first step toward unionizing Personal Care Attendants. The union would hurt rather than help people with disabilities' lives.

Thank you for reading my viewpoints, and please vote no to Bill 6668.

Claire Langton
91A Brace Road
West Hartford, CT 06107