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February 18, 2009

Testimony for CT State Budget Hearings
Appropriations Committee
LOB Room 2C

Good morning Appropriations Committee members. My name is Ginny Gerena. I am an Advocacy Unlimited Graduate. I advocate for people with Psychiatric and Physical Disabilities, Seniors and Youth. Please consider eliminating the following proposed Budget Cut regarding eliminating Medicaid coverage for Vision, Non-Emergency Transport, and all Dental Services other than Emergency Dental.

These services are vital for Health Maintenance of individuals with disabilities, seniors and youth. Because medical costs will increase even more if these preventive medical services are cut. It's better to cover health maintenance services rather than wait until health issues become a crisis. In my own particular case due to no coverage for dental, vision and medical transportation to doctor's appointments, I now am losing my vision and have to have more costly dental work. So, overall it is better to have preventive medical coverage than coverage for more severe medical conditions in the long run. Please give careful consideration to this matter.

Thank you for your valuable time and attention and for the opportunity to present my case.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gerena