



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



Monday, March 9, 2009

To: The Judiciary Committee
Re: Raised Bill 6629

Good Morning Senator McDonald and Representative Lawlor:

My name is Mary Ann Langton, and I am a Disability Policy Specialist at the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities. The Council opposes Raised Bill 6629 regarding An Act Concerning Guardians Ad Litem and Conservatorships. This act would allow a judge or a magistrate to appoint a guardian ad litem to all minors, persons who are incompetent, or to persons who are determined eligible for this assistance.

The Council is concerned that people with disabilities might be viewed as incompetent by the judge or the magistrate. People with disabilities are capable of handling their own affairs independently, or they may decide to ask a family member or a close friend to assist them with an issue. The family member or the friend would be familiar with the person with a disability, and they would be able involve them with managing the issues.

Finally, this proposed bill would hinder the new amendments to the Connecticut Conservatorship Law that enable people with disabilities to choose their conservator.

Thank you.