

1

Testimony of Walter L. Glomb, Jr.
To the Joint Hearing of the Appropriations and the Human Services Committees
On the Medicaid Waiver for DDS Employment and Day Services
December, 8, 2010

Good afternoon chairpeople and members of the committees.

My name is Walter Glomb. I am a resident of Ellington. I am a parent of an adult who receives DDS Individualized Supported Employment supports through the Medicaid waiver.

I am here to speak in support of the Waiver application.

I find the variety of services in the waiver is well suited to my son and his peers. These new adults are the first generation to enjoy the benefits of a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment as mandated in the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the terms of Connecticut's P.J. Settlement Agreement. This generation is ready to work and they have high expectations. They still require some assistance and, like any group, they include a wide range of abilities, challenges and needs. Through Connecticut's network of private, nonprofit, community-based service agencies, the DS Medicaid waiver provides a variety of services – from safe and stimulating day programs to individualized supported employment. The DDS Medicaid waiver also allows consumer choice of service type and service delivery. The Waiver allows consumers to choose among many local private service providers or to self direct their services and hire their own staff. Portability of funds allows consumers to change providers if they find more appropriate services elsewhere.

Needless to say, without the DDS Medicaid waiver, my son and his peers would not be able to join the work force and particulate in our local communities.

I urge you to approve the application.

Thank you.