

Burns, Vanessa

From: juanita [cjuanita171@comcast.net]

Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2011 3:55 PM

To: AppropriationTestimony

Subject: My testimony on bill numbers 387 and bill number 1012

My name is Juanita collazo I am a client of the Board of education and services of the blind. I am testifying against the consolidation of BESB. I feel that if you consolidate BESB WITH the department of education and the department of Social services that the blind people of this state will fall thru the cracks. If it wasn't for BESB, I wouldn't be living here at Saint Mary home. I also wouldn't have gotten a job at CW resources. I also have to say that when I was in the domestic violent shelter, BESB was there to support me until I have gotten placed here at Saint Mary home. By consolidating the two agencies, you are saying to the blind of connecticut that they don't need the following. independent living or vocational training. You are also saying the blind don't need to have mobility skills. If you can find it in your heart, keep BESB the way that it is. Thank you. Juanita Collazo