

Dear Members of the Environmental Committee,

I am an operator in BESB's Business Enterprise Program. This program has done a lot for me. It's extends further then just making money. Being legally blind and not being able to drive, really does limit your work opportunities. In this economy it is hard enough for an average person to get a job, never mind someone who is legally blind.

Having the opportunity to run my own business has really given me self confidence and self worth. I am now living a happy life as a blind individual. Something I couldn't say before I entered the program.

That is why I am firmly against the section of Bill 6654 that would no longer allow 3 of our operators to do business at their current locations. This decision does not directly affect me at this time. But it may down the road as my chances of promotion within the program would be limited. I also want the experience I have had in the program, to be shared by blind individuals in the future.

I think I speak for a lot of operators in the program, when I say I wish I could make my testimony in person. But we are busy running our businesses and we are there on an everyday basis working hard to make them successful.

Thank you for your time,  
Frank Roberts  
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