

ROSANNE & ROBERT SHEA

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House Bill 6001
Public Health Committee
Public Hearing: 2/27/13

We are writing on behalf of our son Jeremiah – a wonderful 17-year-old boy who has Autism – to respectfully request your support for **House Bill 6001 – An Act Concerning Residential Communities for Young Adults with Developmental Disabilities.**

We are grateful to State Rep. Terrie Wood and to the Public Health Committee members for pursuing this legislation that will help lay the groundwork for the establishment of sustainable residential and work communities for young adults with developmental disabilities.

The idea for this legislation comes from the dedicated families and volunteers who are working very hard to establish the Green Hills Farm & Community (GHF&C) in Fairfield County – a place where young adults with developmental disabilities can go to live, to work, and to make life-long friends.

We are certain that our son Jeremiah will love to be a supporter of the GHF&C. Jeremiah loves outdoor activities (especially fishing and hiking), he loves animals, and he loves when people are nice to him. Jeremiah will also be happy to work to earn his keep ☺. These opportunities will all be available to Jeremiah and to other special young adults at the GHF&C. Hopefully the GHF&C will serve as a model for other exciting projects across the state of Connecticut.

The purpose of HB 6001 is to encourage the state of Connecticut to be a partner and a cheerleader for the project. The GHF&C has already gained a ton of momentum and synergy on the local level, and we would love the support from Hartford as well.

Thank you very much for your support of House Bill 6001.