

Mark Lambert
47 Horseshoe Circle
Barkhamsted, CT 06063
March 5, 2015

Appropriations Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2700

Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing to respectfully request that proposed cuts to the Department of Developmental Services Budget be rescinded and their budget made whole.

As a businessman I respect the need for fiscal responsibility. However, small cuts to the services proposed will be devastating to my family and to many other Connecticut families. My son is severely autistic. He ages out of the public schools in June. We are extremely grateful for the support he has enjoyed and fine services he has received by the River Street Autism Program. He is nonetheless severely handicapped and unable to function without supports. If there is no day support for him, there will be no way for him to use the skills he has learned at great effort. We will be forced to keep him home at great personal expense from loss of income and the great frustration to him of isolation.

This at best will not be an easy transition from the support he receives now. Day support programs that I have witnessed struggle with the current funding. To graduate to nothing will be a great personal tragedy for my son.

There must be some way to build a budget for a state that does not wound the most vulnerable members of our state.

Please restore the DDS Budget.

Sincerely

Mark Lambert