

Senator John Fonfara, Representative Jeffrey Berger, and Members of the Committee:

PLEASE restore full funding to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) in your budget. There are so many programs that are desperately needed by vulnerable people and their parents and other care givers. Frankly there is already a long waiting list for services that would improve the lives of those who suffer such challenges and limitations. So, an increase in funding would be very desirable and worthy, but at the very least, please don't cut the funding.

The Department of Mental Health is another area that cannot have a reduction in funding. After the tragedy at Sandy Hook, we in Connecticut should be highly attuned to the need to address mental health problems and support parents who are trying to get help for their troubled children.

Raise my taxes if that's the only way to accomplish this, but don't desert people who need our assistance so much.

Margaret McCabe