

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1088

I, Imelda Reno of Canton, CT, am writing to support SB 1088: An Act.

I wish to thank Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and the members of the Public Health Committee for raising the bill and urge them to pass it out of their committee.

I'm in support of SB 1088 because it will require the Commissioner of Developmental Services in consultation with key stakeholders, to develop and implement a plan to close all "state operated" intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities by a fixed date of December 2015. It also requires that by December 2015, The Commissioner of DDS submit a plan to address the needs of ALL persons receiving services from The Department of Developmental Services.

Closing of Institutions is the right thing to do legally, morally and financially. Closing of institutions is a way to expand services and take care of the needs of all involved. We ask that our leaders properly fund services and stop balancing the budget on the backs of people with I/DD.

Respectfully submitted,

Imelda Reno, Parent of a person with I/DD