

March 5, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Anabela Barros. I am a resident of the town of Orange. I am testifying against the governor's proposed budget cuts to DDS.

I have an 8 year old son with Autism, daily seizures, Intellectual disability, and behavioral challenges. I am In the process of submitting an application for voluntary services that could be life changing for some much needed assistance at home. This budget cut this to program could mean some difficult decisions for my family. How can I work as a single parent and stil raise two children with special needs without any help at home? What other agency is going to have to get involved if Voluntary Services is not going to be available?

I am asking for this Committee to please look at families like myself and many others that depend on this funding to survive to please restore full funding to DDS and children with disabilities. People with disabilities are not the ones that should be affected by our budget deficits. Surely there must be other ways to find funding without this severe impact on society.

SincerelyAnabela Barros