

Dear Committee members,

My name is Mary Bornstein and live in Tolland, CT. I am a speech language pathologist for Building Bridges and McLaughlin and Associates Birth To a Three. I have been working in the CT Birth to Three system since 1997. I know that Birth to Three helps children and in the end saves the state money because 51 percent of children who receive Birth to Three (about \$8,000 per year per child) don't need special education by the time they are in kindergarten (around \$27,000 per year per child). By forcing Birth to Three Programs to bill Medicaid directly many will go under effecting jobs and families waiting for services. Medicaid doesn't allow for joint visits as IDEA demands and current employees would need additional credentials to bill under Medicaid. Please consider opposing this change and keeping Birth to Three. Thank You, Mary Bornstein