

Dear honored representatives,

I write in support of HB 7038, which would allow persons with disabilities or their families to open tax-free, tax-deductible ABLE accounts to save for disability-related expenses.

I have a relative who has two children, one with autism and another with learning disabilities and impairments. Both children have IEPs and the family spends close to \$100,000 each year on therapies, schooling, medication, and expenses related to their children's challenges.

My family member and her husband are self-employed and work long hours to support their family, and the costs related to the care of their children are burdening the family, all without any kind of relief. The children's needs will be ongoing and will continue to be something they struggle to afford.

They are CT residents and would benefit greatly from passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

Heather Borden Herve