

Establishing a tax-free account to provide for disability related expenses is the least that government can do to support families such as ours which are therapeutic and medical. My son Gianni has been a medicaid patient of one kind or other since he was 7 years old and there were many times simply picking up a prescription from the pharmacy was a complete opus. I often wondered how people with fewer resources than we were able to manage. As things stand now any expense not covered by insurance either private or public i.e. Medicaid such as integrative/alternative medicine, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy provide wonderful benefit to both children and adults with special needs are a hardship as a direct expense to family budgets, especially in these tough economic times. Passing HB 7038 would be a wonderful step in the right direction to help families set up accounts to meet their loved one's needs.

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