

Testimony in support of SB 918:

My name is Bonnie Nicol and I live with my developmentally disabled son in Wethersfield, CT. He will turn 17 this year and my fear and anxiety grows as he approaches transition to adult services.

I also work with children who have developmental disabilities and have sadly become very aware of the significant lack of appropriate family support services, residential placement options and vocational programs currently available in Connecticut. To learn the Governor's plan to make more significant cuts is extremely troubling.

Quite honestly I am terrified for my son's future. He is a single child with no viable family to take care of him after I am gone.

We need the legislature to restore the cuts and to increase funding for DDS in the 2016-17 budget. We also need them to pass SB918 so that there is a sustainable plan for the future of services for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in Connecticut.

Please do the right thing for those who cannot advocate for themselves.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Bonnie Nicol
452 Nott Street
Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-212-7963