

Testimony before the Appropriations Committee
H.B. No. 5044 - An Act Making Adjustments to State Expenditures for the FY 17
February 18th, 2016

Good evening Senator Bye, Representative Walker and members of the Appropriations Committee.

My name is Tina Puziello and I am a registered voter in the town of Branford CT.

I am testifying here tonight to oppose any proposed cuts to DMHAS and any mental health services and supports. I have bi-polar illness and have been a member of Options Learning and Socialization Center for 20 years. Peer support through the meeting with other members at Options is very important for me. If I didn't have the Options Center for support I would become isolated and more depressed which could lead to suicidal thoughts and hospitalization. Hospitalization is more expensive than out-patient services and the support of a place like Options. Thank you.