

Judiciary Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6571

AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF THE COURT TO ENTER AN ORDER OF SUPPORT FOR AN ADULT CHILD WHO HAS AN INTELLECTUAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY OR WHO IS PHYSICALLY DISABLED.

Title: OR MENTAL DISABILITY OR WHO IS PHYSICALLY DISABLED.

Vote Date: 3/27/2023

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/27/2023

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Judiciary Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill will allow the court to issue orders of support for someone age twenty-six or under who has an intellectual or mental disability or who is physically disabled.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Mari Carmen Aparicio-Harper: She submitted testimony in support of this bill stating that she is a divorced single mother of an adult child who will never be independent. She provides that, legally, parents are now not required to spend time or financial resources (on their children) beyond the age of 18. She does express her wishes that the bill would include families of divorce with I/DD, where the divorce was issued prior to 2023.

Cynthia J (Last Name Withheld): She submitted testimony in support of this bill because she believes that I/DD children should remain the responsibility of the non-custodial parent, regardless of how old they are.

Elizabeth Schwarz: She submitted testimony in support of this bill because she believes that age does not change a disabled child's physical or mental progress. She believes both

parents need to continue providing support. She would also like to see the bill expanded to provide protections for caregivers and children despite the year the divorce was issued.

Carol Scully, Director of Advocacy, The Arc of Connecticut: As one of the largest providers of support services for Connecticut residents with I/DD (and their families), Arc supports allowing courts to issue orders of support for these adult children up to the age of 26.

Hilory Wagner: She submitted testimony in support of the bill.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Frank Vitale: He submitted testimony in opposition to the bill.

Reported by: Jennifer Albrecht

Date: March 30, 2023