

Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of the Senate Finance Committee. My name is Megan Montgomery. I am very upset with much of this bill, but I will not reiterate what was already. I will instead focus on the one portion of this bill that forces families who feel they have been wrongly denied coverage will now have to go to the Office of Administrative Hearings, essentially RE-LITIGATE their cases every time they're denied. Who pays their attorney's fee's for this? What is the training for these judges going to look like? Who is going to decide what training is important for these judges to learn about?

I have a child with an EIP. We too are forced to go to the OAH when there is a failure on behalf of the school to provide the needed services our children need for the school to meet their constitutionally required mandate of providing quality education. We were told that these judges would be experts and would have expert training. These judges not only do not have expert training, but these judges often do not understand the absolute BASICS of peer-reviewed research. Many of these judges have to have counsel spend hours explaining what a confidence interval is. It's appalling. We were lied to.

I have no doubt that whatever training is going to be done for these OAH judges it will be WOEFULLY inefficient and will lead to harm to the health and well-being of these critically injured victims.

Thank you.

Megan Montgomery