

March 7, 2022

Senator Justin Ready

Senate Finance Committee

SB 868- Developmental Disabilities Administration – Self-Directed Services (Self-Direction Act of 2022)

Position: Favorable

I would like to register my support for HB1020/SB868.

This bill has three simple goals. It gives greater equity and access to appropriate services for self directed participants, restores flexibility that was taken away by DDA and presumes competence of the individuals who the program is designed to serve. Everything in this bill complies with CMS rules/regulations ensuring the federal match. Current DDA policies forfeit matching funds unnecessarily. There is no additional cost to the state or county required by passage of this bill.

We have a team that supports my daughter in her decisions on what she needs and how to spend her budget for services to meet those needs. I've helped her hire staff who take her shopping, out to exercise, visit with friends and volunteer for meals on wheels delivery. She has plans to get a job once we know it's really safe from Covid. She's working hard to become more independent because I will not be around forever. It comforts me to know her support system will be set when I'm gone.

Please vote to recommend passage of this bill out of committee. As the mother of someone with a developmental disability, I ask for your uncompromising support of her right to choose the types and intensity of supports and services she receives, so that she has control over how she wants to live her own life, just like the rest of us.

Thank you,

Casey Huether