

<Date>3/8/22

**Senate Finance Committee**

**SB 0868 Developmental Disabilities Administration – Self-Directed Services (Self-Direction Act of 2022)**

**Senator Lee – Sponsor**

**Position: Favorable**

My name is Patti Saylor, I am a nurse who has been providing Nursing Support Services to people with disabilities and their families since the inception of Self Directed Services sixteen years ago. I have worked for over two hundred customers during that time.

I joined the Board of The Self Directed Advocacy Network of Maryland several years ago when it became obvious my customers were seeing their services become less flexible and they were being given less choice and control over those services. Some services were even eliminated after being provided for years (overnight personal supports).

I was also a member of the Summer Legislative Workgroup this past year who's recommendation lay the foundation for this legislation.

[I am writing in support for HB1020/SB868](#)

Individuals with disabilities and their families have better lives when they have choice and control over a flexible set of services based on their individual needs. Given a budget framework of an annual allocated amount the individual and/or family can make choices best for them.

The intent of this legislation is to increase flexibility and access while remaining fiscally responsible and budget neutral.

Please read the recommendations of the Summer Legislative Workgroup and pass this legislation out of Committee.

Thank you!

Patti Saylor RNMS CMDN