

Brain Injury Resource Facilitation Testimony

S.B. 1528

February 2022

Presented by: Fern Wilgus

Good afternoon

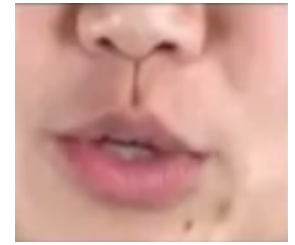
- Chair Patterson
- Vice Chair Kennemer
- and members of committee

- Fern Wilgus
- Vice President of Brain Injury Connections-NW
- Brain Injury Survivor; Senior Citizen
- LGBTQA+; Army Special Services (Korea, Viet Nam)





WE need to talk



- **so many survivors/families** are LOST – they don't have a navigation system nor road map to guide them post hospitalization
- **Quite frankly.....that stinks!**
- For survivor/families the “**outside world**” it's a **jungle!** There are many diverse providers **BUT with ZERO co-ordination among them.** Each is **cocooned in their silos**, leaving brain injury survivors, families to fend for themselves.

SB 1528 will help

connect brain injury survivors/families with those resources, services, and providers that they NEED

Also, it will provide services, resources and information for

caregivers, social workers, case workers, medical/rehab navigators, lawyers, State agencies such as voc rehab, etc.



- **HERE'S WHAT SB 1529 WILL PROVIDE**
- **Live people to help the caller to get to the right resources the first time~::~**
- Provide up-to-date, culturally & age relevant resources
- Provide resources to appropriate medical services & evaluations to include specialist areas such as: neuropsychology , mental and behavioral, vision, audio
- Respite care for families
- Social and recreational opportunities and support
- Housing, food, transportation stability
- To name but a few



B.I. RESOURCE FACILITATION **is** DESPERTALY
NEEDED!

Is not a luxury -- it's a **NECESSARY lifeline!**

it can be the all-important map to peoples'
new post-brain injury life

For folks with brain injury or supporting a loved
one with a brain injury , Resource Facilitation
is ***a needed humane path forward***

- I, from the bottom of my heart, ask that you support **Senate Bill 1528**
- Thank You and the FULL state of us living within the brain injury community thanks you too!