

Submitter: Laura Dahill

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure: SB1016

Dear Senator Gelser Blouin, Senator Robinson, Senator Manning, Senator Prozanski and Senator Weber,

I am writing to request your support of SB 1016.

The Regional Family Networks provide critical peer support to parents who are raising a child with an intellectual and/or developmental disability. The Regional Family Networks believe in supporting families in ways that fosters family empowerment, promotes high expectations and encourages active and fulfilling lives in community. Parents are empowered to dream big dreams and fewer families are going into crisis, thanks to the work of the Regional Family Networks.

As a parent of a child who experiences an autism spectrum disorder, the support and camaraderie I have received from my Regional Family Network has been invaluable. I became involved with the Regional Family Network when my son was in grade school, and today, he is a senior in high school. My son is pursuing his dream of self-employment post graduation, and I attribute his success to our involvement with our local Family Network.

Please support SB 1016, which would put the Regional Family Networks in statute as part of the formal DD Services system.

Thank you,
Laura Dahill