

Submitter: kathie chapman
On Behalf Of: Dylan Baker
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5515

Camp spark provides activities specifically for my visually impaired teenager. Dylan would otherwise not be able to attend summer camp if not for Camp Spark's financial assistance & support for Dylan. Camp Spark is profoundly important for Dylan to feel a sense of community, teamwork, friendship, inclusion, advocacy. Dylans life would be drastically impacted in the negative if Camp Spark would be taken away for financial reasons & this new government agenda.

Dylan Baker says "I am unable to do most activities that a typically developing teenager can do. I can't participate in most ball sports because if I were to get hit in the head with a ball, I might suffer retinal detachment. I need assistance on hiking trails & walking after dusk. I need assistance crossing busy streets. Most summer camps for regular kids, I cannot go to. My mom can't afford to pay for summer camp either. Please don't take camp spark away, I really need it to feel like a normal teenager. i have lots of friends that I've made over the years & I love the staff."