

September 25, 2024

TO: Representative Will Carpenter and Members of the Special Committee on Targeted Case Management

FROM: Marcia Tammeus

RE: Written Testimony from Family

Dear Representative Carpenter and Members of the Committee,

I am a parent of an individual with intellectual and developmental disabilities. His current case manager works for Johnson County Developmental Supports. I have been able to have input into our choice for a case manager, and we chose our current case manager at JCDS. Why? Because they know my son the best...it is a community of support that we appreciate because of the continuum of care, transparency, and strong support for his needs. We could have chosen another case manager from another provider, but that would mean starting all over again with someone who would not know my son or his needs, which are many. These relationships are crucial.

As long as parents have a choice, I see no reason to mandate one agency/provider for case management, and another for residential/supported employment, etc.

My son is 54 years old and is unable to work in the community. He has been with JCDS since he was 21. This community is his other family, and he continues to be a big part of his birth family with regular contact and we will always advocate for what is best for him.

Voices of family members are vitally important. However, I am unable to be present for the hearing, so I hope my words will be taken into serious consideration in your discussions and deliberation. Your decision will have a huge impact on our community that needs consistency and transparency.

Thank you,

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