

March 11th, 2021

67th Assembly – Senate Appropriations Committee -- HB 1012: Section 11 DD funding

Hello Chairman Holmberg and members of the committee,

My name is Jackie Krei and I just started receiving Section 11 services in the last year. Before that, I mostly relied on my family to help me with things. My family likes to help me out when they can, but my mom is now 82 and my dad is in his late seventies so it is not as easy for them to help me out as much these days. I have brothers too, but they have to work, and one has a son with disabilities so it can be tough for him too.

With Section 11, my staff Lashelle helps me with groceries and running errands. She also helps me with coordinating my doctor's appointments and helping me get to them. When things settle down with COVID, she is also going to help me find a job.

In high school I was what some would call a "slow learner" and I was in classes for people with learning disabilities. I also have epilepsy, which can be difficult for me to manage on my own. Sometimes I have trouble explaining things, and sometimes I forget things. When I go to doctor's appointments, and I don't know what to say, Lashelle backs me up, and helps me feel more comfortable and more understood.

I ask you to please continue the Section 11 program to help me better stand up on my own, and to accomplish what needs to be done.

Thank you for your time.

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