

Chairman Weisz and members of the Human Services Committee:

My name is Quintana Linseth and I live in District 26.

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill no.2276, relating to legally responsible individuals providing Medicaid Waiver services.

My husband John and I have three children, 10years, 9 years and 6 years.

My husband works 10-12 hours per day in the oil field and we operate a small cow/calf farm with chickens and periodically a milk cow.

Our 6 year old has been diagnosed with Sotos Syndrome with Global development delays . She has been in therapy since she was 9 months old. We have no therapist in our rural community so two times a week we drive her to her therapy which is 100 miles round trip. She has to see multiple medical providers frequently which require a specialist, most which require long distance travel.

She is in need of 24 hour one- on- one supervision because, although she is physically able, she does not have the judgment skills necessary to keep her or others safe. Our entire family revolves around providing one-on-one care for her. She is large and strong for her age and is prone to behavioral outbursts. It is seldom that our family attends family gatherings or birthday parties to avoid her aggressive behaviors toward the other children, and because she is very often excluded by the other children and adults.

We have been unable to put her in daycare or find in home care for her due to no one available in this rural area and no one able to provide the care she needs.

It is most certainly less expensive that I provide the majority of care she needs than to place her in services outside our home. This requires that I cannot have a full time job to help bring in necessary income for a family of five.

She is progressing in her learning and social skills but certainly has a very long way to go.

She is dearly loved by her family and she loves them and her home very much, and her cats, dogs and pony.

Please consider the North Dakota families that deal with these issues in keeping their family unit together.

Vote YES on Senate Bill

no.2276.

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