



Pennsylvania Advocacy and Resources for Autism and Intellectual Disability

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April 25, 2019

The Honorable Gene DiGirolamo
House Human Services Committee

Re: Testimony on the importance of Residential Services

Dear Representative DiGirolamo:

PAR is Pennsylvania's statewide association dedicated to autism and intellectual disability services whose members provide the majority of the Commonwealth's residential and non-residential services and supports to over 50,000 individuals with an intellectual disability or autism. Our members provide residential services in both Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver-funded services and Intermediate Care Facilities for individuals with Intellectual Disability (ICF/ID).

PAR believes that services and options must be person-centered and honor informed individual choice. Over 80 PAR members currently provide residential services in Pennsylvania with the vision of helping individuals live as independently as possible in their homes and communities. Through these services we strive to help the individuals we support realize their hopes and dreams.

Individual choice must remain the driving force behind the residential services and supports in Pennsylvania. We look forward to working with this committee to ensure that individuals with autism or intellectual disability have high quality, diverse services in their homes and communities to support their unique needs and aspirations.

Sincerely,

Mark Davis
President and CEO