

TESTIMONY OF LISA FLAHERTY VAUGHN

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 2/19/20

INCREASE FUNDING FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTERS

Good Afternoon to all the senators and constituents

My Name is Lisa Flaherty Vaughn. I am here today to speak about my experience. I am a young disable adult who is Deafblind. I have been seeking employment for the last few years. I partnered with an agency that caters to my communication needs and understands my disability impairment regarding my loss of vision. That agency has been very helpful in seeking employment. I want to work in the Human Services field since I have had a lot of experiences in advocacy, self-empowerment, and self-worth. I am here today to share my story, hopes, and dreams.

Its been quite a few years since I have been able to find employment and assisting others who have multiple disabilities such as myself. I have had many struggles in finding employment due to my limitations in the workforce and yet I continue to strive to achieve my dreams of working in Human Services providing services to the many disable adults who struggle to find answers, support, or even someone to talk to. I recently have been informed that I qualified to participate in an internship at the Independence Center which is located here in Hartford Ct. I am thrilled and excited about starting this new adventure.

I regretfully and respectfully **implore** you to help us to continue with the support of the budget and keep this moving forward as this monetary assistance does help and will continue to help individual such as myself with the limitation that I have and yet I know that I am capable of doing this type of job.