

Testimony of Laine Bolt

**H.B. 6439 An Act Concerning The State Budget For the Biennium Ending June Thirtieth,
2023 And Making Appropriations Therefor.**

Health Subcommittee

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Good afternoon Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Miner, Representative France and distinguished members of the Appropriations Committee.

My name is Laine Bolt, I live in an apartment in Groton supported by Journey Found and I like to be active in advocacy issues. Thank you for letting me testify on H.B 6439.

Agencies like Journey Found help people like me to shop, bake, and develop all the skills I need to be a successful adult. Staff help me develop the skills I need to make good choices and help other people. I am here to ask the legislature to **appropriate \$461 million dollars over five years for community nonprofits**. Since 2007 funding has not kept up with costs, making it harder to give supports to me, other people supported by community agencies and people who need support to live on their own.

Journey Found Staff is family. They are there for me. They are part of my family. I am happy in my life. I am comfortable with the staff who work with me. They are amazing people. I am close to them and we talk about many different things. I feel my life would be different and very scary without the supports I get. It is important that agencies get the funds they need to keep going, so that people like me keep getting the support we need to grow and learn new things.

Thank you.

Laine Becky Bolt

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