

LAW OFFICES OF
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Via Email: mjohnson@leg.state.vt.us

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Mitzi Johnson, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Vermont Legislature
Montpelier, VT

Dear Chairperson Johnson:

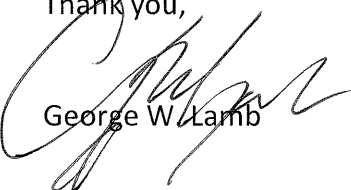
I had the privilege of testifying this past Monday, the 9th, via VIT from Springfield regarding the Development Services budget. My son, Hudson Lamb, has been a consumer of Lincoln Street, Inc., in Springfield for more than 30 years. His life is better because of the services provided for him by Lincoln Street. I hope Lincoln Street will be able to continue to provide services for Hudson and other consumers at the same level as they were provided in 2014.

During the past six years the Development Services budget has been reduced by \$14,000,000.00. The Governor's proposed budget has a cut of \$1,900,000.00 for people currently receiving services. Services for individuals in the system have been cut 6 times since 2006.

Your committee does not have an easy task. However, because of the cuts over the past 6 years I urge you not to cut the Development Services budget again this year; especially to people currently receiving services. I ask that you consider eliminating unfilled positions, furloughing employees for a day a week and other similar measures that will distribute the pain to those who can better endure it and not to the most needy and vulnerable of our citizens.

Please share this with your committee.

Thank you,


George W. Lamb