

To the Members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees; thank you for the opportunity to testify today on the Govenors budget. My name is Maura Lane and I live in Moretown, Vermont. I am one of the over 175 parents in The Developmental Disabilities Housing Initiative advocating for permanent service supported housing, for our son with Down Syndrome who receives moderate support services on a Home and Community Based Medicaid waiver. My son, Phillip Kellem is 45 years old. He has been living with us since June 30,2025. Before that, he lived with a Shared Living Provider. The Shared Living Provider did not want to do it anymore. Since then we have not found another Shared Living Provider. Phillip has had 3 Shared Living Providers since he turned 22 and in between those times, he came back to live with us. It is very upsetting to Phillip to move from one place to the other. He lived with one shared living provider for 9 years and became very close to that family. They retired and he is infrequently in contact with them. My vision for Phillip is to see him settled and happy. Living with his peers in a Service Supported Residence while I am still alive. Support personnel may change over the years but he will not have to move and he will have the companionship of his friends. Money needs to be in the budget for a Service Supported Residence. It is essential to the mental health of Phillip and others with Developmental Disabilities. Thank you for considering these requests. Maura Lane