

## March 7, 2017

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer and Members of the Committee:

I write to express my strong support for **HB 2685**. This bill requires case managers to offer at least one integrated, non-congregate placement option for people who are new to the intellectual/developmental disability (I/DD) system.

Case managers are currently required to provide three different options to individuals who are receiving long term services and supports, but are only required to include two different settings. These options' settings are often very similar in that they restrict the autonomy of people living with I/DD. The Olmstead decision guarantees the right to individuals with disabilities to live and receive services in the least restrictive environment possible. Passage of HB 2685 will help to protect these rights and expand placement options for these individuals.

I respectfully request your support for HB 2685.

Very Truly Yours,

Dan Rayfield

Representative - House District 16