

From: MICHAEL VOLPE
To: [JWMHS Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 5526 Written Testimony
Date: Saturday, March 25, 2017 5:20:06 PM

Senator Steiner Hayward & Representative Rayfield,

I have been receiving long term services and supports (LTSS) for 20 years due to my not having any voluntary movement below my neck. This assistance has allowed me to live in my own home. I need the assistance of home-care workers for most of the day. During the last 20 years my health has been relatively stable despite having Primary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis (MS). Because of the general stability of my health which I believe is due to the quality assistance that I receive i have Fewer emergency room visits, as well as shorter and minimal hospital stays. I also have not had to increase the number of hours I receive assistance for the last 20 years. Since my health is quite stable, I can contribute back to society in the way of participating in several Advocacy groups for people with disabilities as well as participate in my local community. Maintaining the number of hours of assistance and minimizing E.R visits as well as hospitals stays means that I am consuming fewer medicaid dollars, which I believe is a direct result of the hours of assistance that I receive. I believe that I am consuming medicaid dollars wisely and ask that my hours not be cut since I feel that would be very detrimental to my fragile health and possibly consume my Medicaid dollars in the future. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Michael Volpe
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