

From: [Krista Romero](#)
To: [J1SS Exhibits](#)
Subject: Support for SB 1606
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 10:31:39 PM

Hello,

My name is Krista Romero, I am an RN and I also have a severely autistic 18 year old son, who is mostly non-verbal and is unable to answer any of the questions that a doctor, or nurse would ask him. I am his Legal Guardian and because he can be violent he lives, with 24-hour staff at a residential group home.

As an RN for the past 12 years I have worked in the med-surg, ICU and, most recently the Emergency Department. I have seen many people with DD, be confused and terrified because of the unfamiliar environment and because they are unwell and do not understand what is happening. In my son's case, he can become violent when he feels scared and threatened.

It would truly, be inhumane treatment to this population of our society to deny them a support person they trust and are familiar with, and who can give hospital the vital information needed to help that DD person, like my son. And it would be truly heartbreaking to expect them to be all alone, sick and in a scary environment. This has become an urgent emergency, to address now, in these scary times of Covid-19.

I beg your support of SB 1606 so that it will become law that a DD person NEVER navigate the health system without the help they desperately need and deserve, with someone that cares about them at their side.

Thank you,
Krista Romero RN & Mom

