

March 14, 2023

Chair Gelser Blouin and Members of the Subcommittee,

I am writing to request your **support for Senate Bill 1016**, which directs the Department of Human Services to establish and maintain regional family support networks for families of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This bill is scheduled for a public hearing this Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 3pm.

The Family Networks have worked to support me and my family since I was born in Bend in 2003. With the support of CODSN, I graduated from my high school last year with honors and 10 more credits than needed. I am currently attending Central Oregon Community College, Cascade Culinary Institute. I volunteer with CODSN and like being a part of the youth activities they have.

I believe CODSN had a huge impact in my life and for my parents too. Being born with Down syndrome in 2003, there were no resources or help here. CODSN has been helpful for me and my family. I have been to the capitol and shared my thoughts and in the roadshows here in Central Oregon too.

I request your support of SB 1016 to ensure that Regional Family Networks are recognized in statute as part of the intellectual/developmental disability services provided in Oregon.

Thank you,

Victoria Catherine-Ann Hansen

Victoria Hansen, age 19 from Deschutes County Oregon

