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HB 498 Prop. Testimony

Chairman Ginter, Vice-Chairman Swearingen and Ranking Member Howse, I appreciate the opportunity to address you, and the other members of the Ways and Means Committee about House Bill 498.

My name is Gary Lescalleet and I am the program director of PALs A Chrysalis Health Company, LLC (“PALs”) in Heath, Ohio. PALs supports individuals with intellectual disabilities and habilitates individuals in their daily living skills to promote independence. Sadly, adults with intellectual disabilities have very few natural supports and are dependent on other people to assist them with daily needs. Further, many of these individuals are unable to earn money at the same rate as those non-disabled individuals. HB 498 has the opportunity to provide tremendous support to these individuals by giving them the ability to afford much needed modifications by providing tax credits. Individuals with intellectual disabilities encounter constant hurdles in their everyday life just to get through each day and many overcome the hurdles with a smile on their face. These modifications will allow disabled individuals the ability to live the life they deserve and are trying to achieve. Any assistance by the Ohio Legislature to eliminate, or at least lower, the unnecessary obstacles these individuals face will not only increase their daily lives but it is also the right thing to do. These individuals deserve the opportunity to live their best life and HB 498 is a step in the right direction.

Thank you for giving me time to discuss the legislation. Please remember that you have the opportunity to immeasurably change the lives of so many Ohioans who desperately need government assistance. I would be happy to provide specific examples of how HB 498 would be beneficial to those PALs serves and answer any questions the members of the committee may have in the future.

Gary Lescalleet

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary A. Lescalleet".

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