



Testimony on HB 166

Ohio House of Representatives

Subcommittee on Finance, Health and Human Services

Chairman Romanchuk, Ranking Member West, and distinguished committee members,

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to present my written testimony in favor on HB 166.

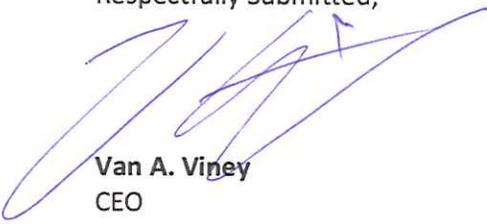
My Name is Van A. Viney and I am the longtime Chief Executive Officer of MATCO Services, located in London, Ohio and Madison County. I have also been very active and involved in statewide leadership for Adult Day Services Providers. **MATCO currently serves approximately 100 adults** with Developmental Disabilities in two counties with a strong emphasis on community and work integration. We are extremely proud of our strong partnerships with businesses which are exemplary. MATCO was the second county in Ohio to privatize Adult Services long before it became a statewide mandate.

I strongly believe in providing a multifaceted system to enhance the personal growth of each individual we serve. Yesterday, I watched live testimony from your Subcommittee and was struck by the many personal statements of professionals, families and the people who receive our services. A common theme from many was allowing for freedom of choice, providing Informed choices, stability in the DSP wages / workforce and many other related issues. **The current budget proposal as presented by Governor DeWine, Director Davis of DODD and Director Miller of ODD is supportive of several initiatives that will help to achieve our many goals.** One of the key related issues is the Non-Medical Transportation (NMT) proposal. No matter how many great programs and opportunities that may exist in our local communities, one of the biggest issues remains transportation. The inability to transport remains a major financial roadblock for many individuals and providers. This becomes an ever-greater problem in rural communities where public transportation does not exist. The new rates will help to alleviate or reduce these concerns and once again I am very supportive of these measures.

DD Services in Ohio will always be in the flux of change as we strive for great services while at the same time maintaining a balanced budget. The acuity reimbursement rate formula has not been altered for many years and a review would be greatly welcomed. This will allow Providers the opportunity to give the best services possible while offsetting unfunded mandates.

Finally, I want to once again, thank you for this opportunity. I was very impressed watching the live testimony during the last few days and I commend the Subcommittee on the outstanding questions asked of the participants. Along with the strong leadership of Director Davis and the many individuals, lawmakers and professional organizations in Ohio, we are as strong as ever. **Let's keep this going!**

Respectfully Submitted,



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