

Finance subcommittee on Health, Human Services and Medicaid

By Marci Straughter

5/14/19

Chairman Hackett, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member West, and member of the committee. Thank you for the Opportunity to Testify Today. My name is Marci Straughter and I work at Arc industries East here in Franklin County which is a sheltered workshop as a human services assistant. I like doing my job because I like helping people and be part of the community

Non-Transportation is important to me because I rely to get to my Job. People with disabilities like myself cannot drive and need assistance getting around. I would not be able to do it without Non-Medical Transportation. Right now Non-Medical Transportation budgets are designed going from your house to the day program or your house to work. It is made for having one job or one day programs. But the Services are not designed going to 2 jobs. I have a second job at Ohio At home and it is a care providing agency and my budget does not allow me to take Non-Medical to it. If we don't get this Non-Medical Transportation Fixed Now, there will be a lot of people that could be stuck at home and not be able to work and pay into Taxes which I would like to continue to do. **It would cost 3x more money having people be stuck and home instead of going out in the community and working**

Comment [CB1]:

When the budget was new, I was excited about changes for transportation for people I work with and myself. But it changed and now they are creating a committee, even though a committee already studied this for the last two years. They put a person on the committee who is from a county no more than 65'000 people and has square mileage between 550-650 mile, but they did not include a person with a developmental disability, like me, who depends on transportation for everywhere I go, Does that make sense to you?

Please don't let this happen. Please go with the original plan

Thank you,

Marcella Straughter