

# WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 3/10/2021

Name: Sarah Millimen

Are you representing: Yourself  Organization

Organization (If Applicable): Riverview Industries, Inc. (RVI, Inc)

Position/Title: CEO

Address: 8380 W. St. Rt. 163

City: Oak Harbor State: OH Zip: 43449

Best Contact Telephone: 419-898-5250 Email: smillimen@rviinc.org

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes  No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 110

Specific Issue: Department of Developmental Disabilities Budget

Are you testifying as a: Proponent  Opponent  Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes  No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? Written testimony only

Please provide a brief statement on your position: I support the budget proposed for the Department of Developmental Disabilities. I feel that it is a critical tool in the success of community inclusion and membership for Ohioans with Developmental Disabilities.

*Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.*



Testimony on HB 110  
House Finance Committee

**Chairman Oelslager, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Crawley, and Esteemed Committee Members,**

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify before you today.

My name is Sarah Millimen and I am the CEO of Riverview Industries, Inc. (RVI, Inc.) and our main day facility is based in Oak Harbor, Ohio. We offer support to people with disabilities in Ottawa, Lucas, Erie, Wood, and Sandusky Counties. We are a non-profit that provides supports for over 79 Ohioans with intellectual and developmental disabilities and we employ approximately 80 staff.

I am very supportive of the budget initiatives outlined by Governor DeWine and Director Davis for the Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD). With these budget initiatives and the leadership of Director Davis, Ohioans with developmental and intellectual disabilities will continue to receive the vital services that organizations like mine provide.

My organization works closely with people with disabilities, their families and advocates, and other local agencies to provide support for people with disabilities. We believe in the importance of diversity in our community and in creating meaningful community relationships and belonging for those we support. Our job is to build community and skills in order for every person with a disability to reach their best life. We believe in the value of those who live with disabilities. At RVI, we believe that when we all work together and grow together, our communities can be a better place. With the proper funding, we can combat the idea that people with disabilities are not vital members of our community. When people are a part of their community, they are happier and healthier. We believe that the people we support are worth the price.

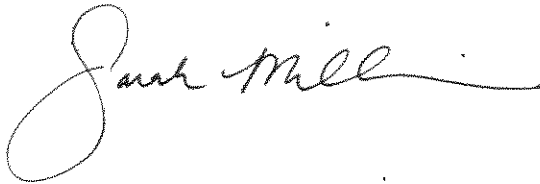
To best support these services and the Ohioans who receive and provide them, I encourage you to add the following initiatives into Ohio's biennium budget:

- Increase general revenue fund appropriations in DODD's budget to fund much needed Homemaker and Personal Care, Day and Vocational Services and Nonmedical Transportation Medicaid home and community based waiver services rate increase. *These increases will provide much needed funds for Direct Support*

*Professional (DSP) wages, support for other front-line professionals and sustain the infrastructure necessary to provide our services.*

- Increase general revenue fund appropriations in DODD's budget to support the reimbursement formula for intermediate care facilities (ICF).
- Support a budget amendment that would allow ICFs to choose between a reimbursement rate freeze or a continuation of the formula for the first year of the biennium.
- Support the creation of a Task Force to address our system's workforce challenges. *This Task Force will identify several initiatives and projects designed to help providers recruit and retain a qualified workforce.*

With your leadership, together we can ensure these services are available to the Ohioans that so greatly need them! Thank you again, for the opportunity and privilege to bring my concerns before you and if I can ever be of any help in this process, please let me know.



Sarah K Millimen  
Chief Executive Officer  
Riverview Industries, Inc. (RVI)

419-898-5250 Ext. 3054