

Hello, my name is Veta Uddin . Sister and legal guardian to Floyd Dexter Spencer.

I am here to testify in support of the Protection and Advocacy Transparency Amendment.

I'd like to start by saying I totally disapprove of the D.O.R. meeting with my brother 2-22-21 without my Knowledge. I was not given the opportunity to take part in the meeting. As of yet I do not know the content of what was discussed in that meeting. If there was a discussion of an independent housing options ,I feel I should have present. My brother should not be required or be expected to understand the in depth details of what a major decision such as this entails. And it is down right untrue and very disappointing to assume so.

Dexter was born December 22, 1956. Due to a lengthy labor lasting 20 hours, forceps were used on my brother. During his 2 week stay in the hospital fluid was drained from his brain twice a day. Due to delays in milestones, at 5 months my brother was given the diagnosis of mental retarded. My brother Dexter never walked or talked. He does have the capability to understand basic conversations and answer questions in reference to likes, dislikes, daily programming choices etc. He does this with facial expressions, nodding his head and utterances (including no).

My brother's limited ability requires total care. At the age of 13 ,I.C.Fs began providing that care . This was a life line for my mother when she had came to the realization that she could no longer continue to provide such care. This same life line is still needed for families that need this option. I.C.F.s should always remain a choice for our loved ones. We should be afforded the right to choose the most appropriate, secure and safe choice for our loved ones when they can not.

Please share your thoughts.

Thank You