

Hello honorable members of the Ohio House of Representatives. My name is Janae Miller. I live in Columbus, Ohio. I am a person who is blind, and I wear a hearing aid in both ears. I am also a home owner. Having SSP services is vital to my life and independence.

It is important to me to navigate my life with independence and safety. My family and friends—everyone works during the day. In the evening, they have a life of their own to lead. Having kids, grandkids, and husbands to tend to. The world cannot revolve around me. But, I still need groceries. I still need to schedule and go to doctor appointments during the day. My SSP takes that burden off my family and friends. My SSP allows me to accomplish all of those tasks independently.

Recently I spent 5 months living in a hotel due to a burst pipe in my home that caused substantial water damage.

My SSP Hanna was very vital to me during that crisis. A lot of the work and communication required for home restoration and mitigation happened during the day when my family and friends were working. My SSP helped me check on the work that was being done. It was crucial to have a set of eyes that I could trust to describe the work being done. I wanted to make sure it was being done properly. She helped me get to doctor appointments, get groceries, get to the bank, and communicate with the insurance company.

I trust my SSP. She provides information and mobility guiding to help me to remain independent and accomplished and safe.

I respectfully request your support of the DeafBlind services amendment so that Ohio can continue providing this essential support to the community.