

March 2, 2023

The Honorable Sara Carruthers
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH. 43215-6111

Dear State Representative Carruthers,

I would like to introduce myself to you. My name is Arthur Roehrig and I have been DeafBlind. I moved here from Maryland last April.

I was very surprised when I found out that there have been no Support Service Providers (SSP) available here in Ohio. I did not get used to that after I utilized such services in Maryland and in the district of Columbia for about ten years.

I was President of the American Association of the DeafBlind and did send a survey to all DeafBlind members, asking what they needed the most, as a result, SSP was in top priority.

It is also important to note that most DeafBlind people have been living in a state of isolation, regardless of being with their families. In fact, most families do not know sign language. As you may agree, the state of loneliness and isolation usually leads a large percentage of people to severe mental issues. That is exactly what many DeafBlind people have been experiencing.

In closing, I urge you to support a bill providing funding for SSP – Support Service Providers. Please feel free to ask me any questions and I will be more than happy to answer them. My e-mail address is, as follows:
Art.roehrig43@gmail.com. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Art Roehrig
Attachment of the OADB/SSP