

April 27, 2016

Senate Pro Tempore David Long
Indiana Senate
RE: Legislative Council Recommendations for Interim Study Committees
Indiana Statehouse
200 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Senate Pro Tempore David Long,

INARF is requesting that the Legislative Council consider the assignment of study topics included in SEA 323 which impacts the lives of individuals with disabilities. The study of the following topics will be important to expanding the opportunities for people affected by the outcomes of the committee's findings.

SEA 323 urges the study of the following topics:

- (1) New requirements from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services pertaining to home and community based settings.
- (2) The effect of the requirements of the Home and Community Based Settings Rule on Indiana waiver services for individuals with disabilities, rate reimbursement, and rate methodology.
- (3) The fiscal impact of the requirements of the Home and Community Based Settings Rule
- (4) The impact of the change from daily rate billing to hourly billing for facility based habitation services on the services provided and the providers of the services.

In addition to the topics included in the passed legislation, INARF joins with The Arc of Indiana in their request to study amending Indiana's probate code to facilitate Supported Decision Making (SDM). In addition to guardianship, Supported Decision Making is another option that uses friends, family members and advocates to give people with disabilities the help they need and want to understand the situations they face and the choices they must make, so they can make their own decisions.

Finally, during the 2016 Indiana General Assembly Session, Senator Mark Stoops authored Senate Resolution 39 encouraging the study of an Employment First Program. INARF is committed to the employment of individuals with disabilities and believes the study could be very productive for achieving employment for those who wish to pursue it.

INARF appreciates your careful consideration of these topics and would welcome the opportunity to speak with you further should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jim Van Dyke
Interim President / CEO



Katy Stafford-Cunningham
Vice President – Public Policy