



Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council

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Representative Anne Pugh
House Committee on Human Services
Vermont State House

Dear Representative Pugh,

The Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council (VTDDC) would like to express its support for S. 7, which we understand is currently before your committee. We are not asking to testify at this busy time, but rather wanted to share our thoughts in a short letter.

S. 7, Sec. 1(a)2 adds the important requirement that individuals who receive services and their families be consulted in the development of a plan to “coordinate the financing and delivery of Medicaid mental health services and Medicaid home- and community-based services with the all-payer financial target services.” In our experience, the engagement of service recipients is stronger when required in statute. Ultimately, it makes for better-informed decisions.

The VTDDC meets regularly with a group of disability advocates who are concerned about the impact of the All Payer Model on Vermont’s Medicaid Program and the people who rely on it. Perhaps early next session, we could have some time on your agenda to expand on these issues, which touch on the relationship of social services to health reform.

Our sincere appreciation for the work that you and your committee do to support Vermonters with disabilities.

Yours,

Kirsten Murphy
Executive Director
