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From: Goodridge, Winell <WGoodridge@sevenhills.org>
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My name is Winell Goodridge Area Director of Adult Residential at Seven Hills Rhode Island. I currently reside in Johnston, RI. I am writing to express my strong support for HB 8183, a vital piece of legislation that seeks to improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities. As someone who advocates for and supports people with disabilities, I understand firsthand the challenges they face and the importance of providing them with the necessary resources and support.

HB 8183 promotes programs that empower individuals with disabilities to lead more independent lives. By enhancing access to essential services, we can help them gain the skills and resources needed to thrive in their communities. The bill aims to expand access to healthcare, education, and employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. These services are crucial for their development and integration into society. This legislation recognizes the vital role of caregivers and provides them with additional support. By alleviating some of the burdens faced by caregivers, we can ensure that individuals with disabilities receive the consistent care they need.

HB 8183 fosters a more inclusive society by ensuring that individuals with disabilities are not marginalized. It encourages community involvement and awareness, which is essential for breaking down barriers and stigma. Supporting individuals with disabilities is not only a moral obligation but also an economic opportunity. By investing in their capabilities, we can enhance workforce participation and contribute to a more robust economy.

I urge lawmakers to support HB 8183. This bill represents a significant step toward ensuring that individuals with disabilities receive the respect, resources, and opportunities they deserve. Together, we can create a more inclusive and equitable society for all.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

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