

**From:** [Claire Rosenbaum](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Murray, Melissa A.](#); [SLegislation](#)  
**Subject:** Senate Bill S2882  
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Senator Melissa Murray  
Chair, Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
Rhode Island General Assembly  
May 5, 2026

Dear Senator Murray:

**I am writing regarding Senate Bill 2882 – Quality Self-Directed Supports Act of 2026.**

My daughter has been self-directing her LTSS supports through the Division of Developmental Disabilities for seventeen years. While I support the intent of this act to increase the number of Direct Supports Professionals available and willing to work for Self-Directed participants, I am not sure that establishing a collective bargaining entity is the best way to achieve that goal. Self-Directed Supports is a Medicaid model that allows participants or their representatives to have full control of hiring, supervising, training, and terminating their employees. In spite of this relative autonomy, self-directed participants are still held to regulations of CMS – Medicaid, RI Medicaid and BHDDH rules and regulations. A collective bargaining entity would only add to this bureaucratic presence in participant's life and potentially disrupt their control of the unique supports and services that they need to live a full life.

For me, this bill raises more questions than it answers. I am a member of two different online communities of people who self-direct and their families. This issue has not come up at all for consideration in either of those groups. Nor was it discussed at all at a recent statewide conference for Self-Directed Supports in RI. People who self-direct have not had a chance to weigh in or consider whether such an action would be beneficial for them. **I strongly recommend holding off on passing this bill until the self-directed community has a chance to consider the pros and cons of such a move.**

Sincerely,

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