

From: [Alan Marasigan](#)
To: [House Community and Regional Affairs](#)
Subject: written testimony sb 174
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From: Laura Bonner <ljbonner@acsalaska.net>
Subject: Written support testimony for SB174
Date: March 13, 2018 at 8:33:23 AM AKDT
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My name is Laura Bonner. I am testifying on behalf of myself and my 20 year old daughter who has cognitive disabilities. I support SB174 because it's important that the Legislature supports the policy that people with disabilities can achieve a self-directed meaningful life. So many times, they are stifled because their disability overshadows their abilities and strengths. Even as a parent, she surprises me in what she wants to do and how successfully she can do it. She is not a label that defines her disability. She knows what interests her and always wants to have a say in setting her personal goals.

Flexibility in administering programs allows each person to achieve their self-directed goals, experience as much independence as possible and forge a path to fulfill their personal hopes and dreams.

SB174 is a way to acknowledge that the support system should be as flexible as possible because "one size fits all" doesn't work for the person. Hopefully, SB174 will help to pave the way for more successful outcomes like the achievements of Rebecca Alley of Becca's Alpacas.

Thank you for considering the passage of this bill.

Laura Bonner
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