

SUBMISSION FROM WILMA PIRIE

1. My young daughter is autistic and I am happy to write in support of the Bill.
2. I consider myself to be articulate and able to act as a fairly good advocate for my daughter but have on far too many occasions felt the despair of dealing with agencies who, although very sympathetic, seem to base their decisions on "the bottom line". I actually look to the future when my daughter becomes an adult with dread, particularly in terms of transition and the planning of support and services. Adults with autism often do not have the support they need and this Bill is an ideal opportunity to transform the assistance provided to individuals.
3. Research has shown that one third of people seeking help and support, have had to resort to going to a tribunal in order to receive that help and support.
4. Clearly statutory guidance *is* needed. I would feel much better if I knew that when the time comes, my local authority will be compelled to take action to meet my daughter's needs rather than making a judgement on whether action *is* needed (too often, in my opinion, this judgement could be based on financial implications).

Wilma Pirie
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