

TESTIMONY OF BILL LEVIS IN SUPPORT OF HB25-1213  
BEFORE HOUSE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, HCR 0112  
MARCH 4, 2025

Mr. Chair and members of the committee. I am Bill Levis, the father and legal guardian of my disabled son who lives in a nine person group home in Rep. Feret's district in Arvada. Based on my family's experience with our son living in both large and small brain injury facilities, I strongly support House Bill 1213 and specifically section one which would treat group homes with fewer than 19 residents differently than those with 19 or more residents.

Since my son suffered a severe brain injury nearly 20 years ago, he has lived in three facilities. The first two each had more than 20 residents and my son had to share a room. Since he moved in Arvada ten years ago, he has had his own room in a nine person group home. Unlike the owners of the larger group residences who had to hire a number of facility directors, the owner of the smaller group home has been directly involved in overseeing the home. Both she and her staff have been more caring and the food has been much better than in the larger facilities. In addition, my son has been provided with more services in the smaller group home.

It would be shame if smaller group homes had to shut down if they could not afford to unnecessarily upgrade their facilities. In addition, I support section 8 of the bill that simplifies how someone with a permanent disability will continue to receive services if their disability or need for services has not changed in three years.

For these reasons, I support the passage of House Bill 1213.