

Your street address
City, state, zip code
Phone number
Date

The Honorable name
Address

Dear Representative (Senator) last name:

I am a resident of city in county name County, and I have an adult child, Bret, with an intellectual disability. On behalf of my child, my family, and others with autism, I am writing to ask you to choose to create a **Family Support Waiver** as a solution to the *Samantha R., et al. v. North Carolina, et. Al* court case. The **Family Support Waiver** would provide basic services tailored to the individual needs of the recipient.

NAME's Story

Since leaving High School in year, my son, NAME, has gone into crisis six times. The first came just after school, and he had very few supports because he was not on the Innovations Waiver through Medicaid. It took a crisis involving interaction with the police to get him into a day program, and it shouldn't be that way.

Because of his last crisis, we were able justify an increase in NAME's contact hours with his personal assistant to 8 hours weekly and other temporary crisis services necessary to stabilize him. He was then able to go back to his supervised independent living home and keep his employment. But these are only stop-gap services while he continues to wait on The List of Unmet Needs.

The List of Unmet Needs is what we call the Innovations Waitlist. NAME is just one of the more than 14,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities on it. More people are on the waitlist than are currently receiving services through the program (12,500).

I feel a **Family Support Waiver**, like the Indiana model (<https://www.in.gov/medicaid/members/202.htm>), would have prevented many of the crises that NAME experienced. It would have provided support for his transition from High School into adult life. A **Family Support Waiver** would benefit virtually all the people on the List of Unmet Needs and their families while also satisfying the court case, *Samantha R., et al. v. North Carolina, et. Al*.

I realize that you face many difficult decisions as you prepare the state's budget. But not providing services to people and families who desperately need them is not the way. These services are critical to my family and to many others in North Carolina with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Please let me know your position on the solution to the *Samantha R., et al. v. North Carolina, et. Al* court case.

Sincerely,
Your name