

Self-Advocates with Down Syndrome - Plain Language

Disability Support Services Bill

I do not support this Bill.

Nothing About Us Without Us.

Disabled people should help make decisions about laws.

Time is an accessibility issue.

Some people need more time to:

- read information
 - understand information
 - get support
 - talk with family
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The Bill does not clearly include Enabling Good Lives.

Enabling Good Lives means:

- choice
 - control
 - independence
 - participation
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I am worried about Clause 8.

Families may be asked to do more care.

Many carers are already very tired.

When carers are under pressure:

- disabled people may lose choice
 - disabled people may lose control
 - disabled people and their family may not be safe
 - support may become less reliable
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I am also worried about future changes being made later.

Important protections like:

- complaints
- appeals
- safety

should be in the law now.

I ask the Government to:

- include disabled people in decisions
- follow Enabling Good Lives
- follow Te Tiriti o Waitangi

- protect disabled people's rights
 - protect carers
 - fix Clause 8
 - remove means testing Clause 11
 - make sure appeal systems exist now
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