

Written Testimony Submitted by Michelle Loar

Dear House Republican Policy Committee:

I am writing to inform you that Centers for Independent Living (CIL) are being undermined by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR). The funds given to Centers for Independent Living are grant funds. They are NOT to be a fee-for-service. OVR is currently trying to revise their operations. They have also denied centers payment. The year is three-quarters over, and our centers have not received the equivalent funding. This will cause larger CILs to down-size staff, and may cause smaller CILs to close their doors altogether. There is a trickle effect. This will then mean that a large population of individuals with disabilities will not be able to receive the services they require to be as independent as possible and to remain in the community. This lack of funding would limit Centers for Independent Living tremendously and not permit us to serve the individuals in need.

Please stop this action and help to promote Independent Living!!

Sincerely,

Michelle D. Loar  
Deputy Director

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Michelle D. Loar  
Deputy Director  
Tri-County Patriots for Independent Living  
Charleroi Office  
209 5th Street  
Charleroi, PA 15022  
724-483-4976 (V)  
724-483-4980 (Fax)  
michelle@tripil.com