



Dear Friend,

In response to concerns from families, caregivers, non-profits, community organizations and individuals with developmental disabilities, Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb has created the Assembly Minority Task Force on Protecting the Rights of People with Developmental Disabilities.

The task force will hold a series of forums across the state seeking testimony from stakeholders including mental health experts, families, non-profit organizations and community leaders.

In an effort to protect the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities in New York State, the topics we will cover include:

- The impact of the Olmstead decision on individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;
- The effectiveness of current transition plans for individuals in sheltered workshops;
- Identifying opportunities to effectively aid integration in our communities;
- Identifying whether input and desires of people with disabilities are being considered; and
- Evaluating how we can better support the rights of people with developmental disabilities.

The task force is eager to hear and receive testimony from stakeholders such as yourself regarding these important issues facing individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

On behalf of the task force, I am pleased to invite you to participate at our **Buffalo Forum on Thursday, May 26 from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Museum of disABILITY, 3826 Main St., Buffalo.**

If you are able to attend, please contact the Assembly Minority Office of Public Affairs at 518-455-5073 or minpaff@assembly.state.ny.us. Members of the media will also be invited to this important event. Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raymond W. Walter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Raymond Walter
Assembly District 146