

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
301 Great Neck Road
Waterford, CT 06385-3825**

Good day Senator Daugherty Abrams, Representative Steinberg, Senator Hwang, Senator Somers, Representative Petit and distinguished Members of the Public Health Committee.

I am Stan Soby, Vice President for Public Policy and External Affairs for Oak Hill and have the honor of serving as Chair of the Camp Harkness Advisory Committee. On behalf of the Advisory Committee, I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 416 and requesting the Public Health Committee consider a change in the text in Section 4. We have been in communication with the Commissioner's Office regarding this requested change and have been informed there are no concerns with it.

The requested change begins at line 139 through line 142. Since the time of our original discussion with the Commissioner's Office about the needed change to the language now before you regarding the no longer existent Family Support Council, we now believe that a representative of the Family Support Network (a different entity from the Council) would best fill the designated position. This belief comes from how programming specifically designed for families has occurred at Camp during the pandemic, the engagement of members of the Family Support Network in this programming and the resultant outreach to and support of families of children with special needs. This change would broaden our stakeholder representation.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.