

EXHIBIT 15
DATE 1/22/09
HB 2

Madame Chairman, members of the Committee

For the record my name is Ken Brown, I am Director of Services for Opportunity Resources, Inc. (ORI) a not-for-profit organization providing residential, vocational and transportation services to adults with disabilities.

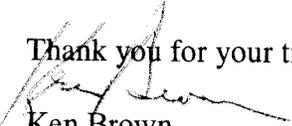
Opportunity was incorporated in 1955. We are one of the oldest corporations providing services to people with disabilities in the state. Unfortunately, historically, the longer a corporation has been in the Developmental Disabilities Program (DDP) system the lower the reimbursement for the same services as compared to more newly developed corporations. A new rates system was designed to correct for this inadequacy. For example, in Transportation last year our contract was for about \$212,000 but our expenses were over \$300,000. This is about a \$100,000 loss in Transportation. We were looking forward to the new transportation system to correct old problems and for the new system to actually pay for transportation costs.

Well it is proving to be a complex system. For example, this year in the new system we were to get over \$300,000 or about a \$100,000 increase. However, we discovered that the \$300,000 that DDP figured wrongly included clients that did not get transportation so we can now only access \$170,000 of those funds and only if we could bill all those rides. Billing at 100% will not be possible.

Remember last year we got \$212,000 and this year the most we would be getting is \$170,000. It is much less. We are worse off than before.

Additionally, since the new system is so complex it has proven to be punitive and a tracking and billing nightmare. We would ask that the transportation system be revisited and immediately corrected to adequately pay for services.

Thank you for your time.


Ken Brown
Director of Services

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