

## Sheila Billingsley

Good evening. I'm Sheila Billingsley, a proud mother of Zachary Yellin, a 36-year-old moderate-functioning autistic man.

Zachary's Medicaid Waiver has enabled him to work in a job he loves since 2015. He recycles electronics in a supportive environment. Unfortunately, Zachary has continually had to reduce his working hours. He initially worked 30 hours a week. He has had to reduce his hours to 20 hours a week to stay under the earning cap. Minimum wage and SSDI increases will likely require more work-hour reductions. In the future, we are concerned that the limit on work hours will impact his ability to work at all.



Second, Delegate Shin has proposed legislation to disregard SSDI payments that exceed the SSI amount when calculating Medicaid Waiver eligibility. In 2024 Zach's SSDI will exceed SSI by almost \$700 per month, further reducing the hours he can work and retain his Medicaid Waiver.

We ask that you support changes in Medicaid Works and Delegate Shin's proposal to let people like my son continue to be a productive working citizen in Virginia.