

JUN 02 2014

Barbara Lee Teas

Houston, Texas 77005

May 28, 2014

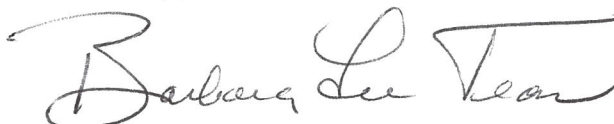
Sunset Advisory Commission  
P.O. Box 13066  
Austin, TX 78711

Please, please do not close the State Supported Living Centers. My daughter, Gena, has resided at Richmond State Supported Living Center (formally Richmond State School) for 40 years. She will be 50 years old in July. My daughter is only one of the many clients in the S.S.L.C's who could not survive in the community – a group home or whatever. She is severely retarded, nonverbal, and fearless. There are some upper-level mentally challenged individuals who might do well in group homes, but there are so many other more fragile individuals who would not.

I believe that EVERYONE on the Sunset Committee of Texas should be REQUIRED to visit each State Supported Living Center to see what is actually taking place. They may be more expensive to run than Group Homes, but you have to consider the benefits that are offered and the RISKS that you will take by putting these very delicate individuals into the community. I know mine would not survive.

Everyone should have the "Choice" of community living or the State Supported Living Centers. PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THEM.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Lee Teas". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name "Barbara" being the most prominent.

Barbara Lee Teas  
Parent/Guardian