



Name
Address
Email

My name is (name), and I am one of your constituents.

I am currently in school at (school). Insert text here about your school, what you enjoy, and what you are involved in.

AND/OR

I currently work at (job) (X number of hours a week). Insert text here about what you do at your job, and what impact it provides to your life.

AND/OR

Insert text here about your interests, hobbies, and goals for the future.

Please support the (Insert bill name and number here). This bill would (briefly describe what the bill would do).

Describe how this law would impact you and why you think it is important for your Member of Congress to support this bill.

Thank you for your consideration!
(Name)

Insert a photo or two of yourself here!



Jamie Dolan

1155 15th St NW, Washington, D.C. 20005

jdolan@ndss.org

My name is Jamie Dolan, and I am one of your constituents. I currently work part time at the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) as an Office Assistant, where I prepare information kits about the needs and abilities of people with Down syndrome. I have had the privilege to represent NDSS at the United Nations for the 2016 World Down Syndrome Day.

With the help of support programs, I also volunteer four days a week shelving return videos in the neighborhood library, delivering lunches to housebound people, and doing a variety of different tasks needed in a senior center.

I like helping people in my community and learning new skills so that I can work independently. I do a good job and I make people smile.

My dream is to be more independent, living in a home with friends (close to my family), now that my parents and I are all older.

Please support the Transformation to Competitive Integrated Employment Act which will help ensure that employers across the country pay workers with disabilities, like me, fair and equal wages and end subminimum wage. This bill will help me achieve my goals and create a pathway to greater financial and personal independence in my life.

Thank you,
Jamie Dolan



Melissa Silverman
12103 Long Lake Drive
Owings Mills, MD 21117
magicbym@comcast.net
410-356-8496

February 22, 2022

Dear Delegate White,

My name is Melissa Silverman, and I am one of nearly 7,500 Marylanders who have Down syndrome. I live in Owings Mills, Maryland with my parents.

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you. I graduated from Franklin High School in 2001, earning an academic diploma. I then went to CCBC in the Single Step Program and earned the 90-hour childcare certification. For the past 18 years I have been working in childcare with children from 2 years old through elementary school age. Presently, I work for Caliday in the before and after school care at Franklin Elementary School.



As a member of the Maryland Down Syndrome Advocacy Coalition and the National Down Syndrome Congress, some of the issues that are most important to me are the ability to make my own choices and have control over what I want to do through the self-direction program. Also, I want affordable housing options and transportation options.



I am writing to ask that you give a favorable report out of committee for HB294 County Boards of Education - Due Process Proceedings for Children With Disabilities - Burden of Proof. This bill would level the playing field for families and students who disagree with their school system about an important decision regarding the placement of their child or special education services their child needs to be successful. This bill will simply require school systems to defend their position first if there is a disagreement about a student's program, placement or services that cannot be settled at the IEP table. Right now, only parents who can afford expensive attorneys and expert witnesses have any chance of winning and even then they hardly ever do. This system isn't fair.

As one of your constituents, I want to thank you for your time and consideration, and for all that you do to improve the lives of individuals with Down syndrome throughout the state of Maryland. We appreciate you!

Sincerely,

Melissa