

DATE: November 2015

TO: Commissioner Murray, DDS

**FROM: Bonnie P. Smith
8366 SW Jessica Street
Wilsonville, Oregon 97070**

I am the sister of Marcinda Perkins who has resided at Southbury Training School ... where she has received loving and expert care ... for nearly fifty years. It is my fervent wish that Marcinda remain at STS for the remainder of her life.

Due to my own health needs, I no longer reside in Connecticut ... however, both as the sister of an STS resident and as a former member of the STS Board of Trustees, I have seen up close and personal it's many benefits to residents and their families. Frankly ... I am confused as to the reasoning for the downsizing of STS as well as the apparent determination to close it and change its use.

I have no recommendations regarding a future use of the facility. Indeed, I would argue long and very hard for Southbury Training School to remain as it is and reopen its doors to those who need it.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.