



December 18, 2018

BY EMAIL

Hon. Lisa MacLeod
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
80 Grosvenor St.,
Toronto, ON
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MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca

Dear Minister MacLeod:

Re: [Bill 64, Noah and Gregory's Law](#) (Transition to Adult Developmental Services and Supports), 2018

On behalf of the Ontario Autism Coalition, we are writing to you today in support of Bill 64.

As you are well aware, Autism doesn't end at 5. It doesn't end at 18 either, and yet thousands of autistic people (and people with other disabilities) are faced with the loss of funding and services upon the 18th birthday of their loved one. Suddenly, for no reason other than a date on a calendar, they are cut off from their childhood supports, only to be placed on long waitlists for adult supports.

The lack of communication and coordination between the former Ministry of Children and Youth and the Ministry of Community and Social Services has caused overwhelming physical, financial and emotional distress. Families who have already filled out endless paperwork and had been deemed eligible for funding and services under MCYS then have to start over--from the bottom. It is our hope that now that those two Ministries are "under the same roof" under your leadership that this situation can finally be remedied.

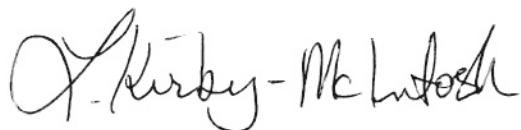
As you know, there are approximately 40,000 people living with developmental disabilities in Ontario and there are approximately 14,000 adults on the Passport funding waitlist in Ontario. All of these individuals deserve dignity and support--and we're asking you to be their champion.

We ask you to actively support the amendment to the Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act of 2008. It is known as [Noah and Gregory's Law](#) (Transition to Adult Developmental Services and Supports) 2018.

When this law is passed, those with disabilities will be able to celebrate their 18th birthday like everyone else. They'll enjoy a new reality in which they will no longer be cut off from their childhood supports. They will continue to be involved in their communities and will be able to live more independently. This amendment will help us take care of Ontario's most vulnerable citizens, and end family despair.

We look forward to hearing back from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,



Laura Kirby-McIntosh, President
Ontario Autism Coalition



Melanie Battaglia, Vice-President
Ontario Autism Coalition