**Sample letter for parent/guardian of individual employed through DT&H program**

Parent

Regarding: Senate Bill—S.2001 or House Bill— H.R. 188

Dear Congressman:

My (son/daughter) \_\_\_\_\_\_ is employed at a DT&H, \_\_\_\_­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_ in  (City)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the past \_\_\_ years.  As a person with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ disability, he/she has always been paid for the work based on his/her rate of productivity or commensurate wage.   This work has been very important to him/her.  It provides a daily routine, creates a valuable peer group with coworkers, and, like the other adults in our family, he/she feels valued for his contribution when he/she gets a paycheck.

I understand that system of pay, a commensurate wage, is now out of favor with many, who consider it unfair.  Some want an hourly minimum wage for all, $11 or $15 per hour.  This would cause my son/daughter to lose disability benefits or be forced to work fewer hours due to the income cap that comes with disability payments.  If this would force my son/daughter to work at a job in the community and work at the same pace as others making minimum wage, he would quickly fail and be fired.  This would be horrible. Most likely, employers would be reluctant to hire people with disabilities at all.

Please vote against this bill.  The special minimum wage is good for my son/daughter and makes his/her life meaningful.