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JUL 20 2016
BY: .....

Date: July 18, 2016

RoAnn M Destito, Commissioner
NYS Office of General Services
Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12242

Dear Commissioner Destito:

I am writing to you to request your support for the Application of the New York State Industry for the Disabled for a Mail Fulfillment contract. This contract will allow the Center for Disability Services' Commercial Services Program, which employs over 300 disabled workers, to continue its mission.

As a family member of an employee of the Center's Program, I can assure you of its value. The Program's employees have benefited enormously from being employed, which has provided them with a sense of self-worth and independence that they would never have without these jobs. This Program provides an incentive for its employees to get up in the morning, go out into the community, work hard and achieve their potential. Earning a paycheck provides a sense that they are contributing to their own support and that of their family. It allows disabled employees to experience the dignity of work in an environment that is sensitive to their needs and supportive of their desire to be responsible members of society.

The Center's Program is achieving all the original goals of the Preferred Source Program when it was instituted in 1975 and the State of New York stepped up to advance the best interests of the disabled, promoting employment opportunities that hadn't existed. As technology advances, so do new opportunities for greater access and integration.

Please support NYSID's Application and ensure the continuation of the jobs it provides. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Frederick J Heigel

Frederick J Heigel

PS- our son, Freddy, has been productively employed at Commercial Services for 10 years now and we urge you to please support the Center's application so Freddy can continue to be a productive member of our community.

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Sincerely, Marianne Heigel

As the mother of a disabled son his continued employment at Commercial Services is invaluable to his personal growth & self esteem. He takes great pride in his accomplishments at Commercial Services. looks forward to going to work & doing his best. Please support the continuance of this opportunity f his