

My name is Jacqueline Kenny guardian of a client at Southbury Training School.

My first recommendation would be for S.T.S. to stay open.

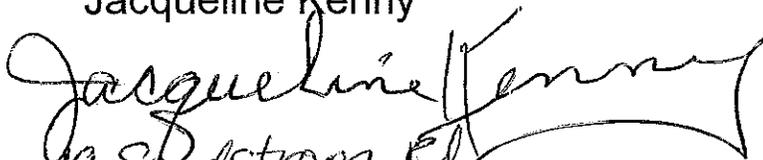
S.T.S. should stay open because many of these clients are getting older. They know their way around the grounds. For most of them it is the only safe home they have known. A place that they and their guardians need not worry because they are being cared for by staff that is trained and knows them so well. I wonder how the Governor or anyone else who wants to close S.T.S. would feel if they had to tell their intellectually disabled family member who has called S.T.S. home for all these years they had to move. Then try and tell them it is because the state doesn't want to help care for them anymore. The same state that stepped in years before that told these parents (many of which are now are elderly and some deceased) that they need to place these children because they need to be schooled and most districts at that time didn't have programs to teach them. They were also told these kids would not be members of society so they would place their children. Now that S.T.S. is at its best some want to close it! It makes no sense.

My second recommendation would be for S.T.S. to reopen admissions.

What is going to happen to all of the kids that are out there now? Some will end in nursing homes with a people who are not the peers they need. Also the other patients who don't want to be with them and staff that isn't really train to work with this clientele. How unfair.

Thank you,

Jacqueline Kenny


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