

From: **Allison Thurman** <allison.thurman@yahoo.com>

Date: Wed, Dec 13, 2023 at 12:57 PM

Subject: Public Comment: Accommodations for people with disabilities and their caregivers

To: <foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov>

Cc: Allison Thurman <allison.thurman@yahoo.com>

Members of the FOIA Council,

I am submitting public comment for your meeting on December 14, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. ET. I am requesting that the Council support:

- Allowing people with disabilities to count toward quorum when they are participating electronically
- Allowing caregivers of people with disabilities to participate electronically.

For many who are caregivers/parents/family members of people with disabilities, it is frequently impossible, if not always impossible, to participate on public advisory boards and commissions due to caregiving responsibilities and travel distance. In my situation, my adult son requires constant availability and support from a caregiver due to his disabilities and numerous health conditions, including epilepsy, apraxia, etc.

I respectfully request that the FOIA Council amend its proposal to include caregivers/align it with the recommendation of the Disability Commission.

Thank you,

Allison Thurman
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