

TESTIMONY
Senate Bill 2014 – PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY PROJECT
Senate Appropriations
Senator Ray Holmberg, Chairman
January 6, 2011

Chairman Holmberg, members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,
I am Barbara Murry, Executive Director of the North Dakota Association of
Community Providers. I am here today to testify in support of the
appropriations bill for the Protection and Advocacy Project.

Protection and Advocacy is an integral part of the delivery system of
services to people with disabilities in North Dakota. P & A provides training
to DD Provider staff on a regular basis on the specifics of abuse, neglect,
and exploitation reporting as required by law. Providers frequently refer
individuals to P & A when they suspect abuse, neglect, and exploitation by
caretakers outside of the Provider system. Advocates are frequently
invited to team meetings to assure consumers understand difficult
decisions related to their rights and are called upon to informally review
incidents of concern that are identified by providers. Providers and P & A
work closely to ensure people with disabilities understand their rights and
are protected.

NDACP supports the continued funding for the Protection and Advocacy
Project.