

We are the parents of a intellectually disabled 41 year old who is employed in a Supported Employment Business.

The concern we have with all the changes and assessments that seem to continually take place is that in the future there will be no place in Supported Employment for people with a more severe intellectual disability.

Our daughter should, in our opinion, be assessed on her productivity output which is on the bottom level, paid at this output and the Business owner supported financially by Government to continue to employ these people because they can't make a profit from their production.

Workers, like our daughter, do not work for the amount of wages they receive but enjoy going to "work" every day with their peers, getting their money every pay day, learning new skills (ever so slowly over many years), and the social interaction from the workplace.

We are not suggesting that Supported Employment Businesses should only be for the more severely intellectually disabled but should be a place for all disabled workers who will never "fit" into "open" employment no matter how much this line is promoted by advocates and Government.

We believe that our daughter should have the choice to be employed and paid a wage and while not at the same reimbursement as the rest of her family it certainly makes her feel an equal in this family.

Yours sincerely

Brian & Lyn Brain