

## **VOR Wisconsin Report June 5, 2025**

By Thomas Spellman

While Illinois Legislature and Governor, to our south destroyed Sheltered Workshops I am sure they will begin to attack Day Programs and Intermediate Care Facilities. Until we can clearly establish ourselves (those whose IQ's range from very low to 60) as different from those who call themselves disabled, we WILL continue to be ignored.

In Wisconsin the State association of providers Disability Service Providers Network (DSPN) Executive Director was on the Board of Directors of ACCSES when ACCSES voted to become "neutral" about supporting Sheltered Workshops. The DSPN Board while not actively working to close Workshops is NOT working to support them either. Disability Right Wisconsin still is pushing to close Workshops as is the Board for People with Developmental Disability, (DRW).

I continue to stay in contact with the Executive Director of VIP Services where Rosa worked for 17 years until COVID. After COVID she continued to work on a scaled back basis at home. She did assemble types of jobs. It took a bit to get them to allow Rosa to WORK at home.

The BPDD actually has a statement that must be signed if you want to be a board member appointed by the Governor that says that you are opposed to Workshops etc. All but two ICF's were closed in Wisconsin years ago.

I continue to look for folks who SEE the need to write the "book" about as Paul Harvey said "the rest of the story", You might have seen there has been some advocacy for people reading **A Disability History of the United States** by Kim Nielsen which does not even include Section 14 of the Fair Labor Standard Act of 1938. Very biased to say the least.

I have written several analyses of the DOL recent effort to close Workshops and also the DOJ effort to close Sheltered Workshops and Facility Based Day Programs.