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June 2, 1987

Hon. Harry H. MacLaughlin
514 United States Courthouse
110 South Fourth Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55101

Re: Welsh v. Gardebring
No. 4-72 Civil 451

Dear Judge MacLaughlin:

I am father of Janice M. Heckt, age 37, who is a member of the class and resident of the Faribault Regional Center, Faribault, Minnesota.

I want very much to have the opportunity to give oral testimony in opposition to the proposed settlement at the hearing scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Friday, June 5, 1987. I would appreciate being the first or one of the first to speak in opposition to this proposed settlement.

I am also enclosing! herewith written requests, comments and recommendations with respect to the Proposed Settlement on behalf of the Minnesota Chapter, Congress of Advocates for the Retarded, Inc., Dean Thomas, legal guardian of his son, Terry, and myself as parent of Jan.

The attorneys for the defendants have provided me with a copy of the department's new bulletin #87-78B. They claim that all parents or near relatives whose adult sons or daughters are under state guardianship will have the right to appeal from a discharge decision. We appreciate this, but are still concerned that if an appeal were taken to a State District Court, Court of Appeals or Minnesota Supreme Court, the argument could be made that the Minn. Rules 9525.0015, Subd. 18 and 9525.0135 would not permit such parent or relative to perfect an appeal.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Melvin D. Heckt