

# SENATE OF VIRGINIA



**JOSEPH D. MORRISSEY**  
16TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
ALL OF THE CITIES OF HOPEWELL AND  
PETERSBURG; PART OF CHESTERFIELD,  
DINWIDDIE, AND PRINCE GEORGE COUNTIES;  
AND PART OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND

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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:  
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
JUDICIARY  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

June 8, 2020

John Barrett  
Chairperson of the Commonwealth of Virginia  
State Human Rights Committee  
Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services  
P.O. Box 1797  
Richmond, VA 23218-1797

Dear Chairman Barrett,

I hope this letter finds you healthy and well during these difficult COVID-19 times. I am writing this letter to you to express my support for the efforts led by the **Just Future Project** to bring more transparency and oversight to the Virginia Center for Behavioral Rehabilitation (VCBR). It is my understanding that there are multiple issues regarding requests for human rights exemptions of those that are being held at VCBR. These issues range from VCBR residents not being informed as to waivers to their human rights to residents being punished and reprimanded for communications to friends and family members outside of VCBR.

I am respectfully requesting that you and the State Human Rights Committee thoroughly investigate these "variances" described in the letter written by Garnett Robins-Baughman, Director for Advocacy of the Just Future Project. Thank you for your attention to these important issues and your continued work to investigate human rights violations.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph D. Morrissey".

Senator Joseph D. Morrissey  
16<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Cc: Garnett Robins-Baughman