

Poetry by Katie Rodriguez Banister

It's important for people with disabilities, their families and other advocates to make their voice heard when legislators are making budget and policy decisions that intimately affect their lives.

Your Voice and Choice

**As we stand and sit here we have a choice.
To act united and use our voice.**

**Me and my friends aren't just "special" you see.
We want independence in our community.**

**The legislators need to know
Missouri's disabled continue to grow**

**There are many kinds of disabilities
With strong repercussions for each family**

**We ask our Reps and Senators alike.
to fund independence, caregiving for life.**

**I used PCA funding in the past to build me
A foundation for the life of the woman you see.**

**Jefferson City we are asking you
To fund a good life that you would want too.**

**We rally here to budget equality.
Create fair and just policy.**

**When creating laws and spending choice.
Please listen to the disabled voice.**

**Thank you for coming and spreading the word.
Now go through the day. Make your voice heard!**

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Katie R. Banister is a dynamic and entertaining woman on wheels