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Dear Committee of Scholastic Standards:

I am writing a letter of support for connected with me towards the middle of this semester after receiving an e-mail from me about the dismissal appeal process. Instead of having the standard conversation about the appeal process, I immediately shifted to talking about retroactive withdrawal. was very hesitant at first to open up to me, though after a lengthy conversation she admitted that the retroactive withdrawal was the best option and wanted to move forward with that process. She mentioned "school is where I need to be right now." Seeing and hearing the pain in her voice, only made me want to advocate for her more. and I have e-mailed back and forth in regards to her retroactive withdrawal and her future at . As you can see, her academic journey here has been more than tumultuous. Her familial commitment as the lone caretaker for her sick aunt, has forced her to place her academics in the back seat. Now that that is under control, and with the outcome of the retroactive withdrawal, she'll have a clear shot at not only being in Satisfactory Academic Progress where can receive her financial aid again (meaning she can work less), but she'll also have a clean slate in moving forward in creating a positive future for herself; in good academic standing. To me, it's evident that is a perfect candidate for a retroactive withdrawal. As a support for her on campus, I see the potential for drastic improvement in academics, self-esteem and life; after the extenuating circumstances are more manageable, which will change with the outcome of this appeal. I support, and highly encourage the Committee to carefully consider 's application as she is the reason appeals like this are offered at If I can be of further assistance in any way, please contact me at or via e-mail:

Joanna Lilley, M.A., NCC

Sincerely,