

April 13, 2015

To: Senate Workforce and House Business and Labor Committees

From: Neena Johnson

Re: Support of SB 610 and HB 2009

Dear Chairs Dembrow and Holvey and Committee Members,

- Members of the Committee, my name is Neena Johnson, and I am an assistant manager at a Oregon Supported Living Program facility, and a member of SEIU 503.
- I have seven kids, and have to work 60 to 80-hours a week to barely scrape by.
- My husband stays home with the 5-year old twins, because it is cheaper for him to not have an income, than it is for us to pay for childcare.
- At work, my co-workers and I are responsible for all kinds of things: from giving insulin shots, enemas and suppositories, to managing the books and medical paperwork for our residents.
- Because our wages are so low, we have incredibly high turnover. There are times when a female resident will get bathed by three separate people over the course of a month.
- It's not fair to them, and it's not fair that my kids don't see their mother.
- I love my job, and I don't want to do anything else.
- All I want, is to make a living wage. I don't need to make \$20 per hour, I just want to be able to provide for my family and spend time with them as well.
- Low wages are lowering the quality of life of my residents, my family and myself.
- Please support HB 2009, SB 610 and a \$15 minimum wage.
- Thanks you.