



February 26, 2018

TO: Rep. Paul Holvey, Chair
House Committee on Business and Labor
FR: Bob Joondeph, Executive Director
RE: Support for SB 1534-A

Disability Rights Oregon supports SB 1534A because it furthers the choice of individuals with disabilities who wish to stay in their homes and communities when they need assistance with the activities of living.

A person may experience limitations in functioning that require the help of a well-trained in-home care worker. These workers not only need the skills to provide safe and effective assistance with daily activities. They must also understand that the person receiving services gets to direct their care and has fundamental rights of dignity, self-direction and privacy.

In-home care work is not the best paid job but it requires a wide variety of abilities. The worker must understand the medical, emotional and pharmaceutical needs of individual. The worker must also be prepared for emergencies and be versed in billing practices. Providing person-centered care that is appropriate for each individual's needs and disabilities requires training and experience. SB 1534A will assure that the training is available.

As our population ages and more people with disabilities have the opportunity to live outside of institutional and congregate settings, the time is right to assure that Oregon has a well-trained and capable workforce of in-home workers. DRO urges your support for SB 1534-A.