

Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Oregon State Legislature

900 Court St. NE

Salem OR 97301

RE: Senate Bill 790

Senate Health and Human Services Committee:

I am beyond blessed to have the opportunity to work with the VIDA Program to save money and work toward becoming a licensed massage therapist. I am a single mom who at some point might have been able to make this goal happen for myself and my daughter however, VIDA has 100% helped my drive to better my life for both myself and my daughter.

I am on my 3rd quarter at Oregon School of Massage thanks to this program and the people in it. I strongly feel I still would not even have started yet and would still just be trying to figure out a way to make this education happen. The other view is that I would have started but be in debt that I would have to pay off before having a successful life where I could be more self sufficient.

VIDA has also helped me feel like I have been apart of providing my own education, and not just having it handed to me. I'm a very independent person and it was important to me that I got to also save money (towards my education) and learn to budget and learn how saving can be beneficial in a number of ways.

I am grateful for this program and excited to see how many other lives and families get to grow to become self sufficient by using this program to the best of their abilities.

Thank you again so much for this program.

Shawna Robles, Albany, Oregon

