



ADVOCATES
FOR DISABILITY
SUPPORTS

Allow Oregon's Disabled Kids to Have Paid Parent-Caregivers

Senate Bill 646



"Family caregivers should be paid, and CMS should make this a permanent (program) to support the nation's need for a strong HCBS system." - National Council on Disability

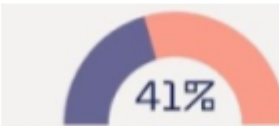
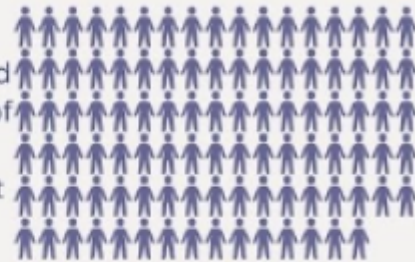
Key Data

- **89%** of families surveyed reported their children's health improved after participating in the program
- **Twice as many** children had zero hospitalizations after the paid parent program was implemented
- A sample of over 700 participants in Colorado's similar program found there was a **six-fold reduction** in rehospitalization rates
- During the temporary program, **two-thirds** of families increased work hours for non-parent providers, helping solve the caregiver workforce crisis.

Workforce Challenges

Unmet Need

The four agencies surveyed showed a combined total of 181 children currently waiting for a direct support professional placement.



Unfilled Hours

A review of the total attendant care hours actually utilized in 2018 showed 41% went unused.



Unstaffed Nursing Hours

One in-home nursing agency expects to see a 50% increase in unfilled hours when parents are no longer eligible to fulfill them

Program Facts

- **Cost savings:** The program is a cost-saver when compared to institutional and foster care. Reduces healthcare costs for government and families with lower rates of hospitalizations.
- **Budget-neutral:** The program is budget-neutral if Oregon intends to allow disabled children to use the full supports allotted to them by the Department of Human Services.
- **Reduced reliance on government assistance programs:** Paying parent-caregivers for the extraordinary labor they provide to their disabled children can reduce reliance on programs such as food stamps and housing assistance.
- **A solution to the workforce crisis:** Parent providers add to the labor force, while data indicate hours worked by non-parent providers also increased during the temporary program.
- **Federal match:** SB 646 is a waiver amendment that can be enacted quickly by CMS, making use of the 2:1 Federal Match, and saving Oregon from the costly stop-gap of continuing the current program on General Fund dollars.

"In addition to the Federal integration mandate, it is well established that living in one's home with supports is safer than living in an institutionalized setting, costs less, and is the desire of most individuals."

- Andrés J. Gallegos, J.D., Chairman of the National Council on Disability



Cost Effective



System Stabilizing



Equitable