

Submitter: Hannah Burgess

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

I am writing in support of HB 2457 that ensures that DSPs get the wages they deserve, by moving DSP wages to 150% of minimum wage and covering the Paid Leave Oregon Payroll Expense. I have been working in the field for six years and have seen how the work we do changes the lives of the people we serve. I have supported over 150 individuals in Clackamas, Lane, Marion, Multnomah, and Washington Counties in their community jobs. This work changes not only the lives of the people we serve, but their coworkers and other community members. However, at the same time, I've watched as the people who support them move on to other employment opportunities because they couldn't afford to keep working in this field. I have had a staff member who was living in their car because they couldn't afford their rent and lost their housing. I have had another staff member face eviction and had to take on a second job. Often times the people we support make more money in their job than the people who support them in it. Please vote yes on HB 2457. DSPs, the people they support, and their families are counting on your support!