

Submitter: Jim Fish

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

I have been working with people with disabilities for about 5 years and have seen a huge amount of staff turn over, because the employees couldn't live on the wage they were being paid, due to the high cost of living in Oregon. When this happens, the people we serve with disabilities feel abandoned and don't understand why the person they have gotten to know and feel comfortable around, has bailed on them. This can set them back, when we are trying to make sure that they are part of our community. I have seen people with disabilities have to be retrained at their job sites because they are so distraught about being abandoned by the employee that took another job for better pay. I want the people with disabilities that I work for, to receive the best care possible by having the person that takes care of them, not having to worry about how they are going to make ends meet or pay their bills, instead of focusing on the person they are supposed to be taking care of and making sure that they have the best life possible.