

Submitter: Amanda Pattee

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

I have worked as a DSP for many years and in continuing my career in the field as a Manger for the Pearl Buck Center's LEAP program. I went from being a DSP to an assistant manager and then a Manger. On April 19 will be at the Pearl Buck Center for 10 years. In that 10 years, I have seen many DSPs come and go. I have seen many people that have established a relationship with said individual, the part of my job that saddens me the most is when I have staff come to me with their notice. I have heard it all. Amanda, I have to feed my family, I have to pay my bills and this is just not cutting it. I have a school loan I need to pay off. The other job is offering more money, I can't pass up this opportunity. I want to stop living paycheck to paycheck. I can't make the rent with my current wage. As DSPs and managers, we have to come into work and check all our stress and home life at the door. Most of the individuals we serve are empathic they feel everything that we feel. There are some stress that can be checked at the door, but other time the stress, and anxiety cannot be. I am hoping that with my voice I can elevate some of the stress and anxiety of living paycheck to paycheck. Please help us with raising the wage. I have faith that this house bill can accomplish this.