

Submitter: Michelle Carroll

On Behalf Of: Oregon Community Inclusion

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

Paying Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) a competitive wage is crucial to attracting and retaining qualified staff. High staff turnover can be a significant challenge in any industry, especially during these times of record-low unemployment, but it can be particularly disruptive for individuals with mental disabilities who we are trying to build social trust with and integrate into their communities. By offering competitive wages, the state of Oregon can show its commitment to valuing and supporting the DSPs who play such a critical role in helping individuals with disabilities achieve their goals and lead fulfilling lives. Investing in DSPs will help ensure that individuals with disabilities receive the consistent and high-quality support they need and deserve.