

Submitter: Chante Gustafson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

As an employee of Albertina Kerr for over 7 years, I have witnessed the compassion, and irreplaceable care that has been provided by fellow direct support professionals. The amount of care that is provided to the people served, has not matched the compensation for the dedication, and commitment, and sacrifices made by DSPs, for the time that I have been in the field. I have watched people have to leave their careers here due to the lack of pay. In doing so, sometimes the people served suffer from lack of consistency. DSPs deserve to be recognized for all they do, as well as be able to support their families. The people served deserve to have care from people that they trust, and not have to worry about a high turn over rate of staff due to low wages. Please help us find a way to keep staff stable to be able to provide the highest quality care for the people served.