

Submitter: Audrey Pahle

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Human
Services

Measure: HB5026

I am writing testimony today in support of fully funding the I/DD budget. I am so grateful that the I/DD budget was fully funded in 2021. This was truly an incredible investment and it is important we continue to protect this investment.

We are still dealing with high turnover and critical staff shortages all around despite this amazing investment. It is incredibly important to keep this momentum that was started in 2021 by supporting ODDS POP 132 and HB 2457. DSPs are above average workers- they provide essential and much needed support for Oregonians who have disabilities. Raising the wage will help prevent staff shortages. DSPs are essential! Please, value the work and raise the wage.

Respectfully,
Audrey Pahle