



UCP Connections

305 NE 102nd Ave Suite 100
Portland OR 97220

March 7th, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Human Services

From: UCP Connections & UCP Mentors Re: Support for SB606

Dear Chair and Committee members,

My name is Glenna Hayes and I am the Advocacy and Outreach Coordinator for UCP Connections and UCP Mentors. We are a non-profit organization that supports people 18 years and older with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Clackamas County and Multnomah County with case management services to help choose, arrange, and monitor the supports they need to live on their own or in their family homes within the community. I am writing on behalf of UCP Connections & UCP Mentors in support of SB606.

Many folks in our community rely on non-profits to meet a variety of needs. Folks in our community rely on non-profits for social inclusion, supports and services to thrive independently, funding to stay housed, direct supports like DSP (direct support professionals), music, art, housing or work accommodations and assistive technology. Parts of our community face high staff turnover which impacts the quality and sustainability of the services people with disabilities receive. Having legislation like this approved helps us fund staffing for these non-profits to provide the stability our community needs to thrive in their lives. When individuals in our community are trying to access these non-profits with staffing turn over/shortages etc. it can mean months if not longer for folks to access what they need for their goals and/or lives. We hope that you pass SB606 to help stabilize the variety of supports and services people with disabilities through the non-profits access.

Sincerely,

Glenna Hayes

Advocacy and Outreach Coordinator of UCP Connections & UCP Mentors