

Submitter: Eric Thompson
On Behalf Of: Jackson County Self Advocates
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

I'm Eric Thompson. I'm a self advocate, and I have autism. I lead a group of people with disabilities called the Jackson County self advocates in Medford Oregon. We urge you to vote Yes on ODDS POP 132 which are DSP wages.

Turnover with a Direct Support Professional is extremely difficult because there's staff shortage which causes confusion. We need the support from DSP's to not only learn the skills that are necessary to live on our own, cooking and opportunities but also have the support to find a good job that has good wages. As a mail clerk for Rogue Credit Union, my Job Coach is always there to help me understand my job well.

When there's staff turnover I get confused and disappointed. I deserve to have notice when a staff member has left.

People with disabilities deserve to have the support they need!! Without that support they wouldn't be able to have opportunities like the studio where they can do art and drama skills. They wouldn't have a job either. Please vote YES on POP 132.

People with disabilities need to be treated with respect, and every bill that reflects around them should be considered with care. Thank you.