

Submitter: Jean McCormick
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

There will never be a wage high enough to pay Direct Support Professionals. The work they do requires, kindness, patience, love, resilience, compassion in an environment that is sometimes turbulent, scary, violent and unpredictable. They suffer physical and emotional burnout and sometimes injury. My coworkers have to work multiple jobs to just get by. It's unethical to have someone work full time in the capacity our DSP's work, yet barely make enough money to take care of their own families. Please consider increasing wages for the very special humans who can do this work day in and day out. We love our DSP's none of our work is possible unless their financial needs are met allowing them to bring their best selves to work everyday. I challenge you to visit one of our homes to truly understand the work that is really being done!