

Submitter: Becki Moore

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure: SB1557

In Support of Senate Bill 1557

Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden, members of the Senate Healthcare Committee, for the record, my name is Becki Moore and I want you to know how important passing this bill is to our family. A few years ago I had to step away from my career of 16 years teaching at our local high school to be home to care for our daughter who is medically fragile. We were unable to have health care workers in our home because of our daughter's poor health and her inability to be in school due to COVID and subsequently after the public health emergency it took a great deal of time to find people to welcome back in to our home to help support her needs on a daily basis. We still struggle finding those special individuals to help care for her; so many of her hours get left unfilled each month and as her parent I am still doing a majority of the care for her. I lovingly take care of her because she is my world and deserves to have a high standard of care regardless of the health care worker shortage. It does however put a significant financial strain on my family...I am unable to go to work because my daughter has such a high level of supports needed, and there are no workers to fill the hours that she needs. I am doing the job at home with her because someone has to, but because I am her parent, under current rules, I am unable to be paid for my labor. My family of 5 is now struggling on my husband's income alone with no relief in sight. We must use SNAP in order help make ends meet and even that is problematic in so many ways.

I ask you to please support Senate bill 1557 for the marginalized families like mine in Oregon who are slipping through the cracks!

Thank you for your time,

Becki Moore