

Dear House Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards members,

I'm writing in opposition to this proposed bill, HB 3838. This is a bill that introduces additional, confusing administrative costs to an industry with no benefit to the individuals who experience intellectual developmental disabilities. The key to providing cost effective services can be linked directly to control of administrative costs while providing the best possible "in person care and support" to the individuals we serve.

Here are some of the concerns I have that are shared with the Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) community:

1. It creates a new state bureaucracy
2. This would increase costs and reduce access to services
3. It's redundant and overly complex
4. It's a breach of employee confidentiality
5. It's an unelected board with no checks and balances
6. It circumvents the normal unionization process
7. It diverts resources away from Direct Supports
8. There's a lack of representation from key stakeholders like providers, families and service recipients
9. Curriculum and training standards should be set by experts

In conclusion, HB 3838 raises costs, reduces access to care, and adds unnecessary bureaucracy without improving wages for DSPs. Oregon should focus on direct workforce investments rather than creating a redundant regulatory body that will only complicate an already strained system.

The most effective way to support this workforce is to fund DSP wage increases directly, not add additional administrative costs that do not benefit the individuals who deserve quality support.

Please do not move this bill forward.