

Submitter: Marci Kallinger  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3838

Dear Chair Grayber, Vice Chair Elmer, Vice Chair Munoz, and members of the committee,

My name is Marci Kallinger and I am the Executive Director for the Ron Wilson Center in Monmouth. We provide services for over 50 people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. We employ over 100 DSP's. I am writing today in opposition of HB 3838. As an ED, my number one priority is the health, safety, and happiness of the people we support. It is very clear that this is not SEIU's priority which is to increase their membership numbers. Our services are highly regulated as is between state licensing visits, monthly monitoring visits from our county entities, yearly audits, OSHA, BOLI, and state Ombudsman for the people we support. I highly support and encourage higher wages for our DSP's but advocacy with our legislators accomplishes that. I take pride in creating a culture of inclusion at RWC and as a result, currently 84% of our DSP's have been with us for over one year. Of that percentage, almost 30% are at top of scale which is \$22.00 per hour and means they have remained employed for at least seven years. What I am asking you to do is to support our DSP's and the incredibly challenging work they do by investing in the recent updated rate model derived from the wage and rate study that the Oregon legislators asked for. It is not necessary to add another layer of bureaucracy when you are able to finish what you started by considering and funding the results of this wage and rate study. The following are some other key points as to why IDD services is not in need of this board that HB 3838 will create:

- ? It fails to recognize the unique nature of ODDS services
- ? It creates a new state bureaucracy
- ? This would increase costs and reduces access to services
- ? It's redundant and overly complex
- ? It's a breach of employee confidentiality
- ? It's an unelected board with no checks and balances
- ? It circumvents the normal unionization process

- ? It diverts resources away from Direct Supports
- ? There's no guarantee funding for new standards
- ? These new standards can only increase and never be reduced
- ? There's a lack of representation from key stakeholders like providers, families and service recipients
- ? Curriculum and training standards should be set by experts

For all the above reasons, I am asking you to oppose HB 3838.

Best Regards,  
Marci Kallinger  
Executive Director  
Ron Wilson Center