

Submitter: Tiffany Wines

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2150

I Tiffany Wines work for Oregon Supported Living Program as direct support professional working with individuals in the IDD community, I have witnessed firsthand the profound impact that our work has on the lives of those we support. Every day, we strive to provide compassionate care, guidance, and advocacy, helping individuals achieve their goals and live fulfilling lives. However, the current wages for DSPs do not reflect the level of skill, dedication, and emotional labor required in our roles.

Increased wages for direct support professionals are essential for several reasons. First, higher compensation would attract and retain qualified individuals in this critical field. The IDD community deserves well-trained and motivated professionals who can provide the best support possible. Additionally, fair wages would acknowledge the challenging nature of our work, which often involves physical, emotional, and sometimes even dangerous situations.

Moreover, investing in DSPs is an investment in the quality of care for the individuals we serve. When we are adequately compensated, we can focus more on our responsibilities rather than worrying about financial instability. This leads to better outcomes for the individuals in our care, fostering a more supportive and enriching environment for everyone involved.

In conclusion, I urge you to consider the importance of increasing wages for direct support professionals. By doing so, we can ensure that those who dedicate their lives to supporting the IDD community are valued and empowered to provide the highest level of care. I support HB 2150. I hope you will to