

March 25, 2019

To: The House Business and Labor Committee and the Senate Workforce Committee

From: Victor Velasco

Re: Support of HB 3031

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Victor Velasco and I live in NE Salem. My family is composed of my mother and grandmother who is Diabetic. Between my mother and I we care for and provide for all of my grandmothers needs. It is important for us to have her in our home and care for her. Taking care of her is important to us as she has given so much to our family. I help keep track of her medications and help monitor her diet and pay for some of her medical needs which is the least I could do.

When I was a little boy, she was my primary care provider when my mother worked. I have fawn memories of the care and love that I received. She is liked a second mother to me and was there for me always supporting my single mother in my upbringing. My mom and I were very privileged to have her in our lives. Having her take care of me gave us all peace of mind, it made my mother able to work without worrying about me and I had some of the most wonderful times of my life while in the care of my grandmother.

Now it is time that I take care of her at 83 she deserves the best times of her life. She deserves to be cared for and to be loved. I am always trying to give her as much if not more than what received from her. However, I worry that in the evet she was to need more support that would require either my mother or I to pull away from our jobs this would place us in a financially vulnerable situation and we would face very difficult decisions.

Financial instability should not be another worry, burdening people with additional unnecessary stress. We should be able to carafe for and honor those who have cared for us. It is important for us to be able to take care of my grandmother and still be able to have a roof over our heads and food on our table. This is why we need paid family and medical leave to be a passed, families can't wait because life dose not wait please pass HB3031.

Sincerely,

Victor Velasco