

To the Chair and Members of the House committee on Human Services,

As a member of in home provider agency DSP workforce, I would like to express my support for HB2694, which will ensure DSP wages remain competitive with the rising minimum wage. In addition, I request that an amendment to the bill be made to ensure the inclusion of the in home provider agency DSP workforce alongside the residential DSP workforce.

My work as an in home provider agency DSP covers a broad range of support services. I assist individuals with safety issues, nutrition and meal preparation, personal hygiene, maintaining the home, positive behavior support, socialization and communication and advocacy on their behalf as needed. This work requires a broad base of knowledge, specialized training, resourcefulness, and an investment of the well being of those I serve.

I support the passage of this bill to allow DSP's in both residential and the in home provider agency settings to be compensated for our highly skilled work with the participants we support. Please consider adding the amendment to this bill that includes the in home provider agency DSP work force.

"In home provider agency" means an entity certified and endorsed by the Department of Human Services to provide community based developmental services.