

TO: Chair and members of the House Committee on Human Services,

As a parent of an adult child who receives direct support services, I am writing in support of this bill. I would like to ensure that DSP wages remain competitive with the rising minimum wage. I request that an amendment to the bill be made to ensure the inclusion of in the in-home provider agency DSP workforce alongside the residential DSP workforce.

My son requires a broad range of services, to include housekeeping, banking, personal hygiene, budgeting, grocery shopping and nutrition, and his workers require a wide range of knowledge and skills, which should be compensated for. My son is among the most vulnerable in society, and increasing DSP wages demonstrates the importance of this often unrecognized work.

I support the passage of this bill to allow DSPs in both residential and in-home provider agency settings to be compensated for their highly skilled work. Please strongly consider adding an amendment to the bill that includes the in-home provider agency.

Jean Bury, on behalf of her adult son.