

Submitter: Andrea Lewis

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure: SB646

As a parent of a child with severe behavioral and developmental challenges, I am writing in support of this bill. I am unable to work because of the high demand of having a child with these disabilities, where as even a school day can end at a moments notice due to a traumatic event. The financial support this has offered our family has been life changing, we are finally able to support ourselves. The care that I can provide for my son will not be met by anyone else. when your child cannot speak to tell you why they are self injuring or sobbing uncontrollably, you need to be there for them. Not anyone else. The support that being able to be a paid parent caregiver has given us is unmeasurable. From giving us financial stability , to self worth, to being able to care for my son with non verbal autism and PANS/PANDAS only like a mother can, this has been life changing and so many Oregon families need this crucial support to carry us through the challenging lives we have with our special needs children. Thank you.