

Submitter: Amy Hoffman
On Behalf Of: Matthew Hoffman
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure: SB646

Dear Senate Committee Members,

My name is Amy Hoffman and my child, Matthew, is autistic with a PDA (Pathological Demand Avoidance) profile. He will be 11 years old in April.

I'm writing in support of SB 646.

Matthew is on an abbreviated school schedule due to elopement issues and suicidal ideation. His schedule changes each day and on the days when he goes in later, I drive him. We haven't been able to use Matthew's PSW (personal service worker) hours in part because of this inconsistent school schedule.

This abbreviated schedule will likely continue in the fall, when Matthew enters 6th grade. He will almost certainly be unable to tolerate a typical middle school day, and I will need to provide transportation for him at different times.

Due to Matthew's limited executive functioning skills, he will continue to require assistance with many activities of daily living as he gets older, and he prefers that I help him with things like bathing, hair washing, putting on deodorant, being with him at bedtime until he falls asleep, etc.

Because of his different needs, I am currently unable to work outside of the home.

If SB 646 passes, I will (for the first time ever) be able to be compensated for the care I give my son that is due to his disability.

Thank you for considering the needs and wishes of children with disabilities and their families and please pass the most inclusive legislation possible.

Thank you,

Amy Hoffman
Aloha, OR