

Submitter: Lawrence Stewart

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

To the House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services

My name is Lawrence Stewart and I am a Residential Coordinator for Rise Services Inc. I would like to express my support for HB 2457 which will ensure DSP workforce wages remain competitive for the support they are providing for people with I/DD.

Direct Support Professionals provide crucial support to adults and children experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities. Their work includes managing medical needs, challenging behaviors, personal hygiene, and support to maintain employment and make real connections in the community, without DSPs it would be extremely difficult for them to accomplish this. DSPs need to be able to support themselves as well as the people that they are supporting, this is not easy work. It is hard, demanding and takes a lot of compassion, kindness and patience.

Please consider giving the DSP workforce a living wage for the hard work and support that they do, please support HB 2457