

Submitter: Shannon Neale

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

I am writing in support of HB 2457 that ensures that DSPs get the wages they deserve, by moving DSP wages to 150% of minimum wage and covering the Paid Leave Oregon Payroll Expense. As a staff member at Albertina Kerr I know firsthand how valuable it is for the people we serve to build longlasting, trusting relationships with their support people. Low wages with virtually no room for raises due to budgetary constraints, on top of performing emotionally demanding work, make the task of a DSP to maintain their own wellbeing a challenge in itself.

Kerr has been an incredible fit for me, fostering a supportive and appreciative workplace for me and my coworkers. This bill would be an extension of that appreciative model on the State's part. If Oregon wants to be a leader in disability equity and justice, investing in the people who devote their lives to disabled people is one of the ways we can do it. This bill would be essential in building in meaningful, lasting support for people with disabilities. Please do vote yes on HB 2457.