

Submitter: Audrey Benson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

As a member of the community who works with families, and consistently sees how hard it is to find good, well trained staff to support said families, this increase is long overdue. I have seen many families put their whole lives on hold because they cannot get the help they desperately need. I have seen the stress caused by lack of support cause divorce, depression, poverty, and even neglect. This world for families is so much different than any of us can imagine, and the Direct Support Professionals we do have- work hard, long, and take on much more than is in their job description. This increase would help keep families together, and quite frankly, help to keep children out of the foster care system. Please consider this testimony as a support to this increase of pay and benefits.