

Submitter: Tabitha Moon

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

I have worked in the field of human services for 20 years. Direct Support Staff have always struggled to make ends meet due to low wages. We do not get paid a fair wage for the work we do. We are tasked with taking care of human lives and ensuring they have adequate care but we don't receive an adequate wage. Our staff leave for better paying jobs, which only aides in the very high staffing crisis that we are currently in. Our benefits suffer as a result of low reimbursement costs. High medical costs are also a struggle for the staff within our agency. People cant afford to pay rent, medical bills, or sometimes even buy food. They aren't eligible for State support because they "make too much", but they cant survive on what they are being paid. Please support this bill. It will bring at least some relief to the many people working in our field for less than they should.