

Submitter: Nicole Robinson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2457

I am a caregiver. I enjoy providing direct service to people with disabilities. Direct care does not pay well. There is a lot of pressure on me to move to a case management position, or become a bus driver, if I want to achieve my life goals. Several clients I had were forced to agency care, where they are assigned to random caregivers, instead of being able to pick someone consistent through homecare workers, because quality people are not there anymore (including me) because it pays less than \$20/hr.

We need a paradigm shift to value care over profit, direct service workers over gate keepers, and getting needs met over enforcement.

Most quality caregivers have already changed careers, please don't force me to follow them.