

Submitter: Jonathan Fechtel

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Human
Services

Measure: HB5026

Please prioritize DD wages and support full funding of IDD services in HB 5026. I ask that you not only protect your previous investment but that you continue to help move this workforce out of crisis by supporting HB 2457 - it moves DSP wages to 150% of minimum wage. I have seen the direct impact that low wages have on hiring and retention within this field. We need to keep these staff members to help the organizations as well as to serve our client base. It is important for staff retention that we can offer higher wages as we lose qualified staff to other jobs on the sole basis of money. Please support an underappreciated field that gives a new life to many individuals in our communities that would be otherwise overlooked.