

Submitter: Kayla Running

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 am asking 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 am full support of HB 5026. I have worked in this field for almost 12 years. I started volunteering at Pearl Buck Center when I turned 18 years, from there I volunteered and worked when they had jobs that needed to be completed. When I heard a position in the as a DSP in the LEAP department opened up, I applied. While working here at PBC I have moved up in my roles and have seen so many good DSP's leave over the years due to low wages. It is heart breaking to have to explain to an individual we support that their favorite staff is no longer with the company. DSP's are a valuable and vital part of this field and should be able to do what they love and not worry about how they will pay their bills.