

Submitter: Nicole Schiller

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.

To the chair and board members concerned:

My name is Nicole Schiller, and I have been a DSP for Rise Services Inc for 8 and a half years. I think it's so important, and necessary that HB 2457 passes. I have dedicated many years to being a DSP, and it has been the most emotionally rewarding job a person could do. I get to do so much for the people that I support. On each given day, I wear many hats. Sometimes I'm a nurse, a taxi driver, a janitor, sometimes a chef. Some days I can be a therapist, an emotional support person. Other days I may have to support someone through a crisis, however that may look. This job has many roles, obstacles, and on each given day you can never be too sure what to expect. I am caring, supporting, guiding and fulfilling each person's life that I care for. Who else would there be if there weren't DSP's? So many jobs and so many roles that a DSP plays on a daily basis! It's truly amazing! It's hard work but we get to help other people and make their lives better, and what is truly better than that?! We get to be there for YOUR family members and loved ones. Some of our individuals truly have nobody, except us! We are the ones right there, supporting and caring for them in their day to day lives. Our elderly and disabled individuals of Oregon need their DSP's. We deserve and NEED a livable wage! Let's continue to help our people thrive! Thank you.