

To: Sen. Gelser – Blouin, Chair, Senate Committee on Human Services

From: Zoe Richerson

Re: Support for SB 725, capping caseloads for IDD case management at 1:30

Hello,

My name is Zoe Richerson. I live in Portland, Oregon, and for the last 10 years I have worked at a support service brokerage that serves adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) living in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties. I started as Personal Agent and while I don't currently perform case management work, I remember what it was like and can attest that the current case load sizes for in home supports is not sustainable.

**I am asking that SB 725 pass this Regular Session to establish a minimum staffing ratio of 30 to 1 for service coordinators and personal agents serving individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.**

As an Oregonian working for a support services brokerage, I strongly support initiatives committed to ensuring that individuals with I/DD—fellow Oregonians—have equitable access to high quality, person-centered support services that help them live self-determined lives in the community. **Establishing a minimum staff ratio of 30 to 1 for service coordinators and personal agents is a critical step in ensuring this outcome for all Oregonians with I/DD who receive support services.**

Please consider passing SB 725.

Thank you,

Zoe Richerson

Resource Director | Community Pathways, Inc.