

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

From: Olivia Duffy

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

Chair Sen. Gelser-Blouin and committee members,

My name is Olivia Duffy. I live in Portland, Oregon, and work as an administrative assistant at Community Pathways, Inc., a support service brokerage that serves adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD) living in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties.

**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 IDD.**

Passing this bill has the potential to both increase and improve the capacity of service coordinators and personal agents to get to know the individuals they serve and understand the specific types of support services they need to live self-determined lives in the community, as well as make workloads more manageable. I've seen managing large caseloads lead to burnout and staff turnover that only further increases the workloads of the services coordinators and personal agents who have to provide coverage, effectively reducing their capacity to provide high-quality, individualized support services every individual with IDD deserves.

As an Oregonian working for a support services brokerage, I strongly support initiatives committed to ensuring that individuals with IDD—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 SCs and PAs is a critical step in ensuring this positive outcome for all Oregonians with IDD and the people who provide them with support on a daily basis.**

I strongly recommend passing SB 725.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration,

Olivia Duffy

Administrative Assistant, Community Pathways, Inc.