

Submitter: Advocates For Disability Supports
On Behalf Of: Joan Johnson
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB538

ATTN: Legislators Please vote yes on Senate Bill 538, also known as Tensy's Law. The bill would increase access to Oregon's Children's Extraordinary Needs (CEN) waiver; allow parents of minors to be personal support workers; and ensure this compensation comes from already-obligated funding. Caring for a child with complex medical needs is a full-time job, yet many families are forced to live in poverty because the state refuses to compensate them for this labor. A staggering 75% of these families rely on public assistance, even though two-thirds say they could leave at least one assistance program if they were enrolled into CEN. Tensy's Law would give families financial stability while reducing reliance on social safety nets. With regards, Joan Johnson