

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

Dear Lawmakers, I am asking for your support of TENSY'S LAW (SB 538). 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 is a simple solution: allow parents to be paid caregivers, ensuring that children receive the care they are entitled to while keeping them in the homes they know and love. With regards, Erica