

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

Dear legislators, I am hoping you will support SB 538 (also known as Tensy's Law) this session. 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. Oregon has a legal and moral obligation to ensure that children with disabilities receive the care they are entitled to. The state already assesses the number of care hours a child needs, yet it consistently fails to meet these obligations due to workforce shortages. Tensy's Law offers a fiscally responsible approach that prioritizes both budget efficiency and better health outcomes. Thank you for your consideration. Emily Meister