

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

ATTN: Legislators Please vote YES on 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. Institutional care is not only more expensive but also less effective than home-based care. Oregon spends over \$100,000 per month on state-run residential placements, while paying a parent caregiver a fraction of that cost would allow children to remain in their homes with consistent, high-quality care. Tensy's Law would give families financial stability while reducing reliance on social safety nets. I have watched my friend Callie and her family have their lives turned upside down as they struggle to provide the love and care their sweet boy Tensy needs to survive. As well as provide for their other children. It doesn't have to be this hard. Please please help ease the financial struggle that families face as they also face the emotional reality that comes with having children with extraordinary needs. With regards, Jessica