

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

Dear Lawmakers, 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. Oregon's homecare workforce shortage is well-documented. Over 90% of families report they cannot find enough caregivers to fill their authorized hours. This shortage is even more severe in rural areas, where specialized caregivers are virtually nonexistent. Tensy's Law offers a fiscally responsible approach that prioritizes both budget efficiency and better health outcomes. Thank you for your consideration. Tamara Costello