

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

To Oregon Lawmakers: 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 offers a fiscally responsible approach that prioritizes both budget efficiency and better health outcomes. With regards, Rene Thorsell