

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

ATTN: 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. 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 provides an immediate, no-cost workforce solution by allowing parents - who are already trained, qualified, and committed - to provide this essential care. Thank you for your consideration. Dawn