

Submitter: Advocates For Disability Supports
On Behalf Of: Kaitlyn Merlo
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. 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 prioritizes what truly matters: the well-being of Oregon's most vulnerable children. Sincerely, Kaitlyn Merlo