

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

To Oregon Lawmakers: I am asking for your support of TENSY'S LAW (SB 538). Although parents of disabled adults can be paid caregivers, this option isn't available for children, leaving many young families with impossible choices. SB 538 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. Without adequate in-home support, families face the heartbreaking decision of placing their child in an institution or struggling without care. Many parents are left with no choice but to quit their jobs, take unpaid leave, or forgo sleep to meet their child's needs. Tensy's Law would give families financial stability while reducing reliance on social safety nets. Thank you for your consideration. Katherine Forba