

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

Dear Lawmakers, Please lend your SUPPORT to Senate Bill 538, or "Tensy's Law." Although parents of disabled adults can be paid caregivers, this option isn't available for children, leaving many young families with impossible choices. Tensy's Law 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. Caring for a child with complex medical needs is a full-time job, yet many families are forced to live in poverty because the state refuses to compensate them for this labor. A staggering 75% of these families rely on public assistance, even though two-thirds say they could leave at least one assistance program if they were enrolled into CEN. Tensy's Law would give families financial stability while reducing reliance on social safety nets. Please consider how this could change the future for community members both emotionally and financially. We need your support! -The Pressly Family Ainslee