

Submitter: Sally Bodine
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB538

I am contacting you to express my strong support for SB538, relating to in-home care for minor children with disabilities ;declaring an emergency.

My daughter and granddaughter live with me because my daughter is unable to work outside of the home. My granddaughter needs care at all times because of her many disabilities. We have been unsuccessful in finding quality healthcare workers to fill all of the hours that my granddaughter qualifies for according to the state of Oregon. Because of this, I am currently one of 2 caregivers for my granddaughter, the other being her Aunt who lives 3 hours away.

Since my granddaughter was born, I have seen firsthand the alarming lack of respite care and daily care providers that are available in a dependable and acceptable skill level. I have worked with senior disabilities and in the school system, and now caring for one of the most vulnerable children who has developmental disabilities, behavioral and medical needs.

SP 538 not only would provide for children who have their needs met by those most qualified to do so, their parents, there should be little if any fiscal impact to the state as monies are already allocated to provide the services. This is a win-win for children, parents and family members, including the state of Oregon. These allocated hours for these children are already in the budget.. please allow parents to be these kids DSP. They know them Best.

Thank you for being a sponsor for SB 538. As this bill moves through the legislative session, and potentially to the house, I share my support as part of the record.

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