



Oregon  
Community  
Brokerages

February 13, 2025

To: Sen Gelser-Blouin, Chair, Senate Committee on Human Services  
From: Katie Rose, Executive Director, Oregon Community Brokerages  
Re: Support for SB 20, supporting employed people with IDD to keep their medical benefits and IDD services

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Chair Gelser-Blouin and members of the committee,

Oregon Community Brokerages is comprised of the 14 Support Service Brokerages across Oregon. Collectively, we provide case management services to nearly 8,000 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) living in their own or family homes in every community throughout the state. We connect people to what matters to them and support them to make the important decisions and choices that shape lives.

Everyone can work and advance in competitive community employment in the right job with the right supports. We know that our lives are enriched through meaningful work that ties us closer to our communities, providing opportunities for each of us to earn wages and pay taxes. In Oregon, we are an Employment First state: it is the policy of the state that competitive integrated employment is the first and highest priority option for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities. SB 20 aligns with these values by removing barriers to employment. SB 20 does that by eliminating income and resource limits to help working people with IDD maintain their access to Medicaid healthcare, which also funds their support services.

Income and resource limits can be difficult to track, hard to anticipate, and catastrophic if miscalculated for people who use IDD services and rely on Medicaid for health insurance. People with IDD may use their IDD services, obtained with their Medicaid eligibility, to get the support they need to be successful in their jobs. If they earn too much and lose access to those benefits, it can jeopardize employment, health, and well-being. SB 20 makes it easier for people to work without fear of disrupting their lives.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments in support of SB 20. We urge your support for the bill, and for Oregon's workers with IDD.