

Submitter: Cara Graca
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB20
Testimony in Support of SB 20

Chair and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support SB 20 because I've seen firsthand how the current system limits opportunities for people with disabilities. My best friend is a quadriplegic, and despite their intelligence, skills, and drive, they face impossible choices—whether to advance in their career or keep the essential healthcare and in-home care they rely on. No one should have to choose between financial stability and their basic needs.

Oregon's Employed Persons with Disabilities (EPD) program is a lifeline, but the income and asset limits keep talented, motivated individuals trapped in poverty. Removing these barriers means my friend—and thousands of others—can work, contribute to society, pay taxes, and live independently with dignity. Other states have already proven that this is not just the right thing to do—it also reduces overall Medicaid costs and strengthens our workforce.

I urge you to pass SB 20 and give Oregonians with disabilities the chance to thrive, not just survive.

Thank you.