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On Behalf Of:
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Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB20

There is a sort of common-sense logic to the idea that government supports and services should be targeted towards the lowest-income Oregonians; and we can see this intention behind the creation of asset and income limits for eligibility in programs like OHP/Medicaid. However, we should judge these policies based on their outcomes, not their intentions, and their outcomes are plainly bad for Oregonians with disabilities.

Income limits prevent people from:

Entering the workforce

Taking a promotion

Accepting a raise just to keep up with record inflation

Marrying their long term partners (or else their partners would also be subject to the asset and income limits as part of their legally-defined household size)

Asset limits prevent people from:

Saving for healthcare emergencies

Saving for natural disasters

Saving towards homeownership

Building wealth that could be passed on to children

Asset and income limits create a ceiling that holds people with disabilities down and makes them even more vulnerable. Despite this, there are people who are willing and trying to work, and save. Remove the ceiling and let them thrive.