

February 14, 2025
Senate committee on human services
SB20

Dear Chair Senator Gessler Blouin, vice chair, senator Linthicum, and members of the senate committee on human services.

I am writing my testimony today in full support of SB 20. I understand the logistics behind having resource limits for individuals that need long-term care. Unfortunately, the way that the current system works is broken to most individuals. I myself am disabled and sufferer from a disease called multiple sclerosis, which has me in a wheelchair. I am very independent and also also divorced and raising two kids half of the time on my own. This is not a sob story of what I have to deal with, but just an imagery of what I deal with on a daily. From the beginning of my day once I wake up, I need help to get out of bed just to even start my day. This usually entails me having to reach out to somebody in my family that can help me out or also depend on my daughters to be able to help me fight my spasticity, so I can actually get Up. In the process repeats in order to get me in bed. In it's self this starts to become extremely humiliating, there has been multiple times where I have had to reach out to different family members and you can hear the frustration in their response like you have become a burden. This is extremely difficult to handle mentally, and I know it's exhausting on all parties. I have personally been trying to get caregiving services for two years. I have gotten Road blocked by the fact that My resource limits are considered too high. I work a part-time job that is 20 hours a week just to be able to sustain living a decent lifestyle. I truly need the help of the caregiver to be able to help me in and out of bed and also help me during my daily living and life. It's mentally heartbreaking that I have to have my 10-year-old and eight-year-old daughters act as caregivers sometimes, it's such a young age that this should not even be something on their minds that they have to think about. I and many others truly need caregiving services and have been denied multiple times because of the resource limits. I am now to a point where I have relied on family so much that even calling them they will not answer the phone anymore because they know I need something and it's an inconvenience to them. I can completely understand The emotion behind this for them as well it's hard and there is nothing easy about any of this. I feel that removing the barriers of resource limits could truly help so many but also the individuals in their families. I ask that you please consider removing resource limits from Oregon entirely.I understand this is just a short, blurb and image of my life but I could explain so much more in further detail if needed.

Thank you for your consideration,
Cody Guinn
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