

February 13, 2025

To: Senate Committee on Human Services

From: Casey Moore

Dear Chair Senator Gelser Blouin, Vice Chair Senator Linthicum, and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services,

I am providing this testimony in support of SB 20.

In 2000 I became paralyzed from the chest down after breaking my neck and sustaining a spinal cord injury at the age of 20. I had always had a fulltime job up until my injury, after my injury I still had a strong desire to be employed and contribute. It took me a little to adjust to my new body and build my skills up that would be valuable to potential employers. I worked with my DHS Case Manager and a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor to get on the Employed Persons with Disabilities Program (EPD) that allowed me to get back in the workforce in a career I love. I soon learned the limitations and restrictions put in place for individuals with permanent injuries that rely on the care hours allowed by Medicaid. I have had to pass on hour increases, promotions, raises, and cost of living increases to not lose my Medicaid and care hours I rely on to meet my basic care needs.

I'm asking you to please support this legislation. It will create equal employment opportunities for not only myself, but for many other Oregonians with disabilities. I would love the opportunity to advance in my career, provide for my family, save for my future, pay taxes, and KEEP the care hours I desperately need through Medicaid.

Thank You!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Casey Moore". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Casey Moore
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