

Submitter: Darryl Adams  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB20

Senate Committee on Human Services,

I am Darryl Adams and I'm the founder of Access Insights, LLC - a consultancy focused on AI & accessibility innovation in pursuit of employment equity for people with disabilities.

Employment rationale - People who experience disability tend to be incompatible with the environment around them. When you live in a world that was not designed for you, you learn to be creative. You learn to think outside of the box. It is this type of problem-solving that is so highly valued in the workplace. Project teams thrive when there is a diversity of thoughts and perspectives. Diverse teams build better products.

My vision for the future is one where disabled Oregonians can gain and maintain meaningful employment while maintaining access to the care we need. Disabled employees should be allowed to thrive in the workplace, advance our careers, save for emergencies and save for retirement like our able-bodied peers.

Technology is evolving to enable greater workforce participation, and we need policy to evolve along with it to support disabled employees as we grow our careers while providing reasonable financial pathways to be able to graduate from assistance programs when possible.

Accessible employment for people with disabilities is a big opportunity for Oregon.

Thank you for considering this important issue.

Darryl Adams