

Testimony in Support of HB 3168: IDD Worker Safety

March 4th, 2025 House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services 8:00 A.M., Hearing Room E

Chair Hartman, Vice Chairs Nguyen & Scharf, and Members of the House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services:

For the record, my name is Lisa Reynolds, and I serve as Senator for Oregon's 17th District, including communities in West Portland, Cathedral Park, and Northeast Washington County. I also work as a pediatrician serving children and families in my district.

I would like to offer my strong support for HB 3168, as it is a modest but meaningful step in the right direction when it comes to protecting both caregivers and the people that they look after. Caregivers, who love the work that they do, deserve better than sub-par staffing ratios and inadequate emergency plans.

HB 3168 is not an end-all-be-all by any means, but it is a movement towards the positive. While we consider how to best care for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, we are also tasked with the responsibility of the safety and security of the caregivers who work with them directly. I urge support of HB 3168, so that we may better care for those who care.

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