

March 11th, 2025



Senate Committee on Human Services  
Oregon State Capitol: 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97302  
Re: Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1065

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of SEIU Local 503, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 1065. SEIU Local 503 is a union that represents thousands of caregivers and support workers who provide the full spectrum of care and support in Oregon—from children to seniors, including individuals with physical and developmental disabilities. As union workers like homecare workers, nursing home staff, direct support professionals, and adult foster home providers, our members are deeply committed to ensuring Oregon is a place where access to care and support is a top priority. SB 1065 aligns with our mission by empowering individuals with disabilities and their families to make informed, self-directed life decisions.

Our members see firsthand the challenges individuals with disabilities and their families face when making life decisions. At its core, this bill promotes supported decision-making and upholds an individual's right to self-determination. Too often, families resort to highly restrictive measures like full legal guardianship simply because it's the most familiar option—despite being unnecessary, costly, and often misaligned with the individual's goals. SB 1065 tackles this issue by creating a Center for Decision-Making Supports, a centralized resource offering accessible, accurate, and comprehensive information on guardianship, supported decision-making, health care directives, powers of attorney, and other alternatives.

Finding information about alternatives is often challenging, and this center aims to bridge that gap. On behalf of SEIU 503 and the thousands of caregivers we represent, we urge your support for this important legislation. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,

Rachel Hansen  
Political Strategist, SEIU Local 503

**1-844-503-SEIU**  
MAIN OFFICE

**525 NE OREGON ST.**  
PORTLAND, OR 97232

**@SEIU503**  
FACEBOOK  
INSTAGRAM  
BLUESKY  
TWITTER

**SEIU503.ORG**