

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kristine Merritt, I live in Philomath, OR. I am writing in Opposition to HB 3838. I have worked and supported people in Oregon for over 25 years. We have faced many challenges over the years and currently our ID/DD system has a huge need to increase DSP wages, to stabilize our services and nonprofit providers. Nonprofit providers historically have provided supports for people in Oregon for a lower cost and are a good use of Oregon & Federal funds. Unfortunately there are groups looking to take advantage of this situation by presenting HB 3838.

HB 3838 does not address the fundamental issue: ensuring wage increases for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs). Instead, it creates a bureaucratic mechanism that fails to provide solutions while increasing costs and complexity.

This will actually make our system more complicated and not fix the problems. It will also add costs that do not serve the people. At this time we need to be wise with how we are spending funds, please do not support HB 3838.

Thank you,

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