

Submitter: Oriana Horneck
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Dear Members of the Committee,

Please consider including funding for the Children's Extraordinary Needs (CEN) waiver program that allows the highest needs children in our state to have their parents as their paid caregiver. You helped put this program in place 2 year ago, but currently there is only enough funding to allow 155 children into it while another 1500 are on the waitlist. Please help fully fund this vital program that helps get our most vulnerable children the services they need and deserve. This year help us pass SB 538, Tensy's Law!

My 9-year-old son has lived with a severe form of epilepsy his entire life and I know first hand how important it is for him to have his dad or I available to care for him. He requires 24/7 care, and while we rely on a small number of caregivers, he still needs his parents to be around and available. We know him best and can give him the best quality of life that he deserves.

Sincerely,
Oriana Horneck