

Submitter: Kimberly Mitch

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2150

Hello,

I strongly support HB 2150. It is imperative that there be an increase in wages for those supporting people experiencing Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The work requirements of are a professional nature and pay more entry level pay. An increase would allow us to be more competitive to offer more of a living wage for the demanding responsibilities for the job. Our Direct Support Professionals provide care to people with high level needs. The DSP's are responsible for offering individualized meals, including in many cases, complex diets and food textures; administering medications as needed, that again can be complex; administering nourishment through g-tubes; change catheter bags, provide oral care, personal care, transfers using hoysers and sit-to - stand medical equipment; provide transportation; and importantly do there best to ensure high quality of life at home and in their community. These responsibilities are great and the pay should reflect their high skill level and dignify as professional care givers.

Thank you for your consideration of supporting HB 2150.

Sincerely,  
Kim Mitch