

Submitter: L JK

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2150

To members of the committee,

This is to send full support for HB 2150 with the -2 Amendment. This amended bill would direct the Department of Human Services (DHS) to include an annual cost-of-living adjustment into contracts with community provider organizations for the provision of services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Chronic underfunding of these services has created a \$558 million gap between what providers are currently being paid and actual costs. This bill would keep that gap from growing larger by ensuring that annual increases of no less than the Consumer Price Index are included in DHS contracts for these services.

As the situations increase with recent developments to de-support our community with disabilities, as well as other services needed being cut, our neighbors are at risk of losses in many types of support. We need them to have stable caregiving.

This bill helps Direct Support Professionals' wages keep up with inflation at a minimum, preventing this vital workforce from falling further behind.

Please support HB 2150 with the -2 Amendment and prioritize funding for IDD services in the 2025-2027 Budget.