

April 3, 2025

To: Joint Ways and Means subcommittee Human Resources

From: Casey Moore

Dear Committee Co-Chairs Campos and Valderrama, and fellow members of Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services,

I am writing to express my strong support for the full funding of SB 20 within the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) budget.

In 2000, at the age of 20, I sustained a spinal cord injury that resulted in paralysis from the chest down. Prior to my injury, I maintained full-time employment. Following my injury, I remained determined to return to the workforce and contribute to society. After a period of adjustment and skill development, I collaborated with my DHS Case Manager and a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor to enroll in the Employed Persons with Disabilities Program (EPD). This program enabled me to re-enter the workforce in a fulfilling career.

However, I quickly became aware of the limitations and restrictions imposed on individuals with permanent disabilities who rely on Medicaid-funded care hours. I have been forced to decline opportunities for increased hours, promotions, raises, and cost-of-living adjustments to maintain my Medicaid eligibility and the essential care hours that meet my basic needs.

I implore you to support this crucial legislation. SB 20 will create equitable employment opportunities not only for myself but for countless other Oregonians with disabilities. It would allow me, and others, the chance to advance in our careers, provide for our families, save for our futures, contribute through taxes, and, most importantly, retain the vital care hours we depend on through Medicaid.

My son is currently 8 years old. In 8 more years he will be ready for his first car, 2 years after that he'll be off to college. Please help give me the opportunity to be able to save and contribute to his future my scoring SB20.

By fully funding SB 20, you will empower individuals with disabilities to achieve their full potential and contribute meaningfully to our state. Your support is essential for creating a more inclusive and equitable Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Casey Moore". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Casey" is written with a large, looped 'C' and the last name "Moore" is written with a large, looped 'M'.

Casey Moore
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