

April 3, 2025

To: Joint Ways and Means subcommittee Human Resources

From: Trey Turner

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.

I am writing to advocate for my uncle, who has been a quadriplegic since an accident 25 years ago. Despite his disability, he is one of the most outgoing, dedicated, and hardworking individuals I know. He excels in his career and is passionate about his work. However, the current state laws place him in a difficult position that limits his potential.

My uncle is eager to advance in his career, but he constantly faces the fear of losing his eligibility for caregiving and healthcare benefits if his income exceeds the state's required limit. As a result, he is forced to accept lower-paying jobs simply to retain the essential support he needs as a quadriplegic. It is unjust that someone with his education, skills, and abilities must limit his earning potential in order to maintain basic care.

I urge you to consider removing the income and resource limits that restrict individuals like my uncle by fully funding SB20. Doing so would allow people with disabilities to pursue higher-paying jobs and career advancement without fear of losing critical benefits. This change would not only improve the quality of life for those affected, but it would also help them contribute more effectively to society and generate additional tax revenue.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Trey Turner". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Trey Turner