

Submitter: Rachelle Casey
On Behalf Of: UHI
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5526

To the Members of the Oregon Legislature:

My name is Rachelle, and I am writing to express my strong support for enhanced services and funding for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in Oregon. As a Program Manager with UHI, I have witnessed firsthand the critical need for comprehensive and accessible services that support the well-being and independence of individuals with I/DD.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) provides essential programs that serve people affected by I/DD. These programs include in-home supports, community-based services, and 24-hour care options. However, despite the significant efforts of DHS, there are still gaps in service availability and funding that need to be addressed to ensure that all individuals with I/DD receive the support they deserve.

Support for Caregivers: Caregivers play a vital role in the lives of individuals with I/DD. Providing them with adequate resources, respite care, and training, and wages that they can sustain living in our economy.

In conclusion, I urge the Oregon Legislature to prioritize the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities by increasing funding and expanding services. By doing so, we can ensure that all Oregonians, regardless of their abilities, have the opportunity to lead fulfilling and independent lives.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Rachelle Casey