

Submitter: Paul Litwinczuk

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5526

I've been on the Board of an IDD Provider for 9+ years and IDD Providers Are Struggling to attract and retain employees and even just stay afloat.

We've seen the pressure over many years but now more than ever, we need your support to increase funding and allow us to provide for these critical services.

? Providers cannot raise rates (or DSP wages) on their own—they are almost entirely dependent on state funding (and the federal match for state allocations)

? Unlike other industries, IDD services face: No built-in cost-of-living increases, No private pay market and Limited fundraising options

? Organizations are already exceeding state-funded wage in rate models just to find and keep staff, draining reserves to stay open.

? Without increased funding, service access will shrink, and more providers will be forced to close or reduce services.

Legislative Action is Needed in the 2025-27 Budget

? The IDD workforce crisis cannot wait—immediate investment is needed to stabilize services.

? Prioritizing IDD funding will prevent further workforce shortages and service disruptions.

? Delays put individuals with disabilities at risk of losing essential services and supports.