

Submitter: Kaleb Gambee
On Behalf Of: HB 1197
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1197

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Hello and good morning to the Oregon legislature and to my fellow Oregonians observing statewide. My name is Kaleb Gambee, visiting from Portland, Oregon in Multnomah County. Today, I have come before this committee to provide testimony and support for House Bill 1197.

As a community college student and a young advocate for system care, I am deeply committed to the advisory council youth and DEI committees. I am here to support and bear testimony on the critical importance of this bill and the language surrounding the statute of respite for youth and young adults.

Respite is not just a service, but a lifeline for many families in our community. For parents and caregivers, especially those who are providing in-home care, medical paid leave and in-home pay respite services are essential. These services offer much-needed relief and support, allowing caregivers to recharge and continue their vital work.

The urgency of this bill cannot be overstated. It is a thoughtful and essential step towards ensuring that our young people and their caregivers receive the support they desperately need. Respite services provide a safe and nurturing environment for youth, helping them to thrive and grow. This is particularly crucial for young adults who are transitioning into independence and require consistent and reliable support. House Bill 1197 addresses these needs by advocating for comprehensive respite services that include medical paid leave for parents, caregiver in-home pay, and dedicated respite for youth. The thoughtful language in this bill ensures that these services are accessible and effective, making a tangible difference in the lives of many Oregonians.

In conclusion, I urge the members of this committee to recognize the profound impact of respite services and the necessity of House Bill 1197. Your support for this legislation will ensure that Oregon continues to lead the way in providing essential care and support for our youth and their caregivers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kaleb Gambee

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DEI committees