

Submitter: Ashlee McBeth

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Raising wages for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) is not just about fair compensation—it's about valuing the essential work they do every day. Higher wages recognize the skill, dedication, and emotional labor involved in supporting individuals with disabilities, often in deeply personal and challenging situations. For DSPs, better pay means greater financial stability, reduced burnout, and the ability to remain in a profession they care deeply about. For the individuals we support, it means continuity of care, stronger relationships, and a higher quality of life. When DSPs are supported, respected, and fairly compensated, everyone benefits—especially those who rely on them the most. We urge the committee to prioritize this critical issue and include increased funding for DSP wages in this year's budget.