

Submitter: Cari Pagan  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Dear Legislators,

Please include SB 538, Tensy's Law in the budget. This bill is not a hand out. This bill is a solution. It will help solve the problem of the lack of caregiver workforce by allowing parent caregivers to be paid for their labor. It will prevent many children with the most severe disability from being placed in harmful institutionalized settings and it will save Oregon from having to pay for the high cost of those institutions. It will also alleviate cost from elevated hospital visits and stays and reduce the amount of welfare services many of these unpaid caregiving parents are forced to rely on presently.

Washington, California and many other states have realized that paying parent caregivers for a portion of their work is the humane and cost effective way. Please, we beg you to allow this lifeline for our children with the very highest level of need. Many of our families cannot continue without it.  
Thank you.