

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

Chair Lieber, Chair Sanchez, and Members of the Committee,
My name is Rick Morrell and I'd like to ask for your support for SB 538, Tensy's Law. This bill will literally change and possibly save lives of the most severely disabled children in our state, including my grand daughter. She works so hard daily to tolerate the world and gain skills to live in it.

Over 20 other states have realized the moral imperative and began paying parent caregivers of this most vulnerable group of children. Please, take this opportunity to help these families sustain what they work so hard for.

I ask that you don't consider "no" an option. The CEN waiver currently in place to allow paid parent caregivers has been a hugely successful and imperative support for many families. And some parents who have become eligible do not have the need and therefore offered their "spots" to others so in reality number of 1500 eligible would be lower. I ask that you raise the hour cap to 40 hours so parents who do need to be paid for their labor have a livable wage. This is essential to get and keep people off of government funded supports such as SNAP. I also ask that you raise the amount of available spots as much as you can with current budget concerns but please do not consider no an option. Oregon must help more of these families than the current small amount who are eligible. It's inhumane and not representative of Oregon's commitment to marginalized, innocent children with the most severe disabilities. Please support SB 538 Tensy's Law
Thank you.