

Submitter:

Nathan Collins

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3838

Good morning, Chair and members of the committee. Thank you for your time.

My name is Nathan Collins. I was a DSP for four years and am currently an assistant manager with Umpqua Homes in Roseburg. Two colleagues and I carpooled at 5:30am this morning to be here today.

I'm concerned about House Bill 3838 and Amendment 3. This unelected board does not sound like the answer Oregon DSPs need.

If this board is established, it will find what we, as DSPs, already know to be true: We are underfunded. Due to that underfunding, providers try their best to find creative solutions to keep our doors open, stay compliant, offer competitive wages, and provide the best we can for the people we support. At the same time, DSPs continue to be underfunded heroes for the people we support.

Providers like Umpqua Homes try our best, but if the funding is not there at some point, we will need to make hard decisions that will impact DSPs and the lives of the people we support.

We don't need another oversight body setting rules and complicating the work of DSPs that we are currently underfunded to perform.

Please oppose HB 3838 and fully fund DSPs across Oregon, raising these heroes' wages. Thank you, and I'm open to questions.