

Submitter:

Katherine Tarter

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3838

I am Kate Tarter. I am the parent of an adult child with a developmental disability. My son uses the in-home DSP services and will soon be receiving additional DSP services from the provider organization with whom he receives ODDS funded employment supports. Each option offers something different. I believe this bill will limit his options for services.

I worked for a brokerage that supplies services for adults with disabilities in 2007 when care providers were hard to recruit. "Hard to recruit" because the pay was poor, there were no benefits, and it took so long to get a background check potential candidates usually found other jobs before being approved. Since then, Personal Support Worker and Direct Support Professionals have become a serious career path with good pay and benefits. This bill will end jobs for DSPs and options for individuals benefiting from choice. This bill makes the advocating for DSPs in the workforce like a good thing gone bad.

DSPs have the right to seek out which employers they chose for employment. This bill removes the employer's ability to have a unique culture, and staff benefits for the DSPs and individuals they service. This bill does not fund expected wages and benefits for provider agencies.

Please reconsider the impact on client choice. Being able to get multiple services from a provider agency allows clients choice. This bill will end choices for the some of the individuals utilizing DSP services.

Respectfully,
Kate Tarter