

HB 572 Written Testimony: Lynnette Hardesty
House Aging and Long Term Care Committee
May 23, 2018

Chairman Arndt and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lynnette Hardesty. I am asking for your support in passing House Bill 572 that restores a full year of service credit to employees who work with special needs children for our County Boards of DD.

This is my 18th year with Coshocton County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Hopewell School. Eighteen years ago, I left a job with a public school paying into SERS. I chose to accept a position at Hopewell School because I thought it would be more rewarding working with children with special needs. I love my job, but I believe it is unfair to receive less service credit towards retirement than the teachers I work beside or my counterparts in local school districts.

If I continue to receive only $\frac{3}{4}$ credit for each year I work this will seriously impact my retirement planning. I will either have to years longer or see my pension reduced significantly.

Again, I am asking for your favorable consideration of HB 572 to find a solution to this issue that is hurting me and my coworkers.

Lynnette Hardesty
Employment: Coshocton County Bd of DD Hopewell School
Employed 17.5 years