Chairperson Carruthers, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the House Finance Subcommittee on Health and Human services, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB33.

My name is Cindy Fox and I am 53 years old. In 1992 I was in a motor vehicle accident that left me a quadriplegic, paralyzed from the neck down, and having the inability to breathe on my own.

Thank you for considering Hb 33. I would like to express how imperative it is to increase the wages for direct care workers. Our direct care workers are the reason that individuals who receive home and community based services are independent, able to work, able to live in the community and be contributing members of society. Our direct care workers are the reasons persons with disabilities are able to thrive.

Thank you again, Cynthia Fox Advocate for self