



Senate Finance Committee
House Bill 33
6/8/23

Chairman Dolan, Vice Chair Cirino, Ranking Member Sykes, and esteemed members of the committee,

My name is Pete Moore. I am honored to be with you today. I am representing a coalition of associations serving Ohioans with developmental disabilities, their families, and the system that supports them. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

I am here to express gratitude. When we began this biennium budget journey in front of the House Finance Health and Human Services subcommittee, we thanked Governor DeWine and DODD Director Kim Hauck for providing us a great foundation for our discussions with all of you. We thanked the House Finance Committee for incredible support shown to developmental disability services in Substitute House Bill 33. Today, I thank the Senate Medicaid Committee and this esteemed committee for the support you show to Ohioan's with developmental disabilities, their families, and the providers who support them. Finally, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the County Boards of Developmental Disabilities for their partnership and for their financial commitment and efforts with this budget and over the past several years to address the workforce crisis.

During this process, we made the case that Ohio's developmental disability provider community is struggling and in turn, the people they support and their families are struggling. You heard testimony from the people impacted by the crisis. They highlighted the many difficulties this system is facing across the state and the country. Our coalition set a goal to get to an average wage for direct support professionals and other similar frontline professionals at \$20.64/hour. Unfortunately, I think we are aiming for a moving target and that number will continue to change as the economy shifts and service demands change. We are truly grateful for where we have landed and will continue to work with you beyond this budget to determine how we stay ahead of the competition.

Thank you for your time, dedication and historic support to Ohioans with developmental disabilities and their families. We are excited and eager to partner with you as we work to stabilize and sustain our system.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Moore", written in a cursive style.

President and CEO
The Ohio Provider Resource Association