

Becky Slone
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

My name is Becky and I have a son Devyn who is now 24 years old with Duchenne muscular dystrophy. We have been receiving some kind of assistance since he stopped walking at the age of nine. My husband and my self both work 40 plus hour jobs and within the last three months one of us has to miss a day of work to cover shifts Because we don't have someone to take care of our son. We are both trying to work just to keep us afloat and with having to miss one day a week without pay when we are living paycheck to paycheck doesn't work for us. The home health agency just can't keep staff and they get someone and they just can't afford to stay with the pay they receive when they could make like three dollars more down road at Fast food. So we are losing hours that use to be covered by state and we can't even use respite hours bc we don't have the people long enough to even know if they are trustworthy to keep our son all weekend while we are out of town. Then when we do get a moment of free time we are exhausted from having to deal with the stress from this person not showing up. The aides don't get days off because the company is understaffed they have families they are trying to take care of also. I don't know the answer but we need help.