

Bridgette Doyle
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

My name is Bridgette and I currently work in the DD system. I love my job and I love the people I take care of. I'm writing this because there is a crisis. I'm writing this because we need help in this field. Everyday I wake up and go to work because I LOVE spending time with the individuals I take care of. I love being able to help them with whatever they need help with. The money is not really important to me. But for some, it is. We are very under staffed. Some days we are working one staff to 9 individuals. Some days we have only 4. But it's not the best situation. It's very very unsafe. I've heard stories from the main center of where I work. Where we have many individuals living. They are the ones who work non stop, one staff with up to 9 people. Changing them, doing their medication, feeding them, and just spending time with them. There's not enough people. We do so much for the people with care for, and honestly we do not make enough. We make a minimum for \$14 an hour. To work 8-12 hours a day, sometimes more, lifting, rolling, giving meds, feeding, making sure they are comfortable, keeping them clean, being their friend, cleaning up our spaces we use, and not getting a break. People when applying see this and realize how much work they have to put in to do this job for so little pay. We need to make a beneficial pay so we can afford to live our lives outside of work. So we can pay all of our bills in one month and not be late on some because we couldn't afford it. If you support the increase you would be supporting people who need us to live their lives. We will be able to get people in here that actually care about their job and care about the people we take care of. The workers will be happy enough to go to work, take care of their clients, and go home and know that they did well that day. We need help. Please support the funding increase. So many lives depend on it.

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