

Danielle Pietruszka
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

While working as a direct support professional we love the people we care for, but we also have a unique experience that most of the workforce in the country doesn't experience when it comes to achieving a work life balance. We are expected to go above and beyond for those we care for, sometimes at the expense of our own personal responsibilities. Especially those who are taking care of individuals on top of caring for loved ones at home. We cannot care for others if we are unable to care for ourselves. A combination of these things are causing the intense burn out a majority of direct support professionals are feeling. We do understand the reality of the job and that turnover is high in the healthcare field, but at the same time these stressful conditions need to be acknowledged by their employers as well as their state representatives and other government officials.

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