

Eric Chen
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

My name is Eric Chen, and I am submitting testimony because I am an Ohioan parent of a child with developmental disabilities. I rely on Direct Support Professionals to support me with coordinating weekly activities and support systems that allow me to be a productive and value added Ohioan. I lack the supports I need due to the shortage of Direct Support Professionals caused by low wages. In the past few months, there have been multiple times when I was waiting multiple days without the support I require. I urge lawmakers to take action to raise wages for workers in the DD system so that Ohioans like me can get the supports we need to thrive. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony and for your careful consideration of how to resolve this critical issue.