

Grace Lomboy  
Testimony on HB 33  
Supporting the DD Workforce

When I first began working in this line of work(DSP), my first client was an adult female with serious behavior disorder but had the mind set of a 5-7 year old. Majority of her meltdowns had to do with her parents or because she didn't get her way/told no. When she had her meltdowns this girl would LITERALLY beat the shit out of me whether it's with her own hands and feet or throwing something at me like one time she through a fireplace took set at me. Not just the poker or just the shovel the ENTIRE thing and I was on the other side of the room. She's attacked me in my car before, almost caused us to get in an accident. She's punched me in my jaw, made my face black and blue. If she didnt try to hurt me she would hurt whoever is closer to her. She's even tried strangling her dog once or twice. Even though I knew there was a chance I would get the crap beat out of me I still worked with her for about a year and a half because her mom and I had a disagreement. After I left no one else would stay working with her because of how violent she is. Right before I went to a different company, the company I was working for had no choice but to hire the girls own mother to work with her so the company didn't lose her as a client. That is one of many reasons why I left to work for another company. I understand not everyone works with people with behaviors but I still feel this is a good example is to why DSP deserve to be paid more. Some DSPs go above and beyond for there clients and don't feel recognized for it. Seeing fastfood signs offering to start off at \$15 or more a hour is depressing and in my opinion makes me feel unappreciated for the work I do.