

Julie Baioni
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

My daughter has begun using Ohio services for employment assistance. She was able to start a program to work for 5 weeks in the summer but we were not able to get driving assistance since the cost of driving services are more than the state would pay.. That would mean that parent employment is being gravely affected due to services that are supposed to be provided for her are not, due to no driver providers willing to drive for such low pay. Parents cant take all the burden on. We work and provide so much already. Without these services, the burden becomes unmanageable and both the parents of DD and the state will continue to suffer. Our state ranking for care will continue to fall and we will not be considered a state worth moving to for hard working families and pay hard earned taxes.

I am also an Aunt to another with DD who is now an adult. The terrible assistance provided to families who are in need struggle to much and are fighting for their family members to be counted as equal citizens under the law. Taking money or cutting money to these services are inhumane and unethical for a state that claims to be compassionate and believes in Christian values. You help those in need. You dont take from them or neglect them. Ohio, do better.