

Katherine Adkins-Dix
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

My name is Katherine Adkins-Dix, and I am submitting testimony because I work for a non-profit agency that provides waiver funded services to individuals with developmental disabilities. We employ and rely on Direct Support Professionals to support individuals with everyday activities and tend to their medical needs. We have found, as an agency, we are struggling to provide services to meet the demand due to the shortage of Direct Support Professionals caused by low wages. In the past few months, we have had to turn down several referrals due to the lack of DSP's available to provide much needed services. I urge lawmakers to take action to raise wages for workers in the DD system so that Ohioans with developmental disabilities can get the supports needed to thrive. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony and for your careful consideration of how to resolve this critical issue.

Katherine Adkins-Dix
14529 Alger Rd
Cleveland, OH 44111-1309