

Loren Popio
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

Thank you the chance to contribute. Our son, Danny, is a happy 36-year-old man with autism. We are so grateful to The Mahoning County Board of Developmental Disabilities for their invaluable support, advice, and "love." We are also grateful for everything The Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services for their support all these years. my wife, Kathleen, has always cared for Danny, and a few years ago became an Independent Provider. We are grateful for the Shared Living Program - which has provided Kathleen with an income. Kathleen never could work outside the home because of Danny. Although her income helps keep the family intact, inflation has eaten away at our standard of living. An increase in the daily rate Kathleen receives would help all of us a lot.