

Megan McMahon
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

My name is Megan McMahon, and I am submitting testimony because I am the Legal Guardian for my daughter, Anna Mary McMahon, an Ohioan with developmental disabilities. My daughter relies on Direct Support Professionals to support her with everyday daily living activities and keep up with her medical needs. She lack the supports due to the shortage of Direct Support Professionals caused by low wages. Since our long term DSP died of complications of COVID, we have relied mostly on family because other DSPs do not show up, quit when they realize Anna Mary's scope of care, and do not have reliable transportation. When they DSPs make so little, it's difficult for them to have dependable transportation. They often decide to find a job closer to their home that pays more and has greater benefits. I urge lawmakers to take action to raise wages for workers in the DD system so that Ohioans like Anna Mary can get the supports she needs to thrive. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony and for your careful consideration of how to resolve this critical issue.