

Patrick Hardin  
Testimony on HB 33  
Supporting the DD Workforce

1) Patrick Hardin

2) I am a DSP affected by the low wages in our field.

3) I have worked in the DSP field for over 5 years. Within that time frame, I have seen McDonald's and other fast food industries increase their starting pay at \$15.00+

This is unjust as (not to knock the food safety) we in the DSP field have more safety certifications and nursing delegations than the food industry. How is it that someone who flips burgers or deep fries chicken get paid more than someone who takes care of another human being. Now, I'm not asking for an increase like \$35.00/hour, but an increase to justify the type of work we do would be beneficial in keeping workers who are unsatisfied with the amount of work required (variable with each client) vs pay rate (Not so variable. Dare I say, stagnant).

I love my job, but with the amount of hours I personally pull (70 -100) a week, versus the cost of rent, groceries, etc. I can not afford to help the economy grow by buying things, because all of my bills sap my money. AND I BARELY HAVE ANY BILLS. I can not by a home with any income. I can not go to school to earn a higher education because if I lose the hours I am at, I lose my car, I lose my insurance, everything. I dont have much. I would like to invest in Ohio. I can't even afford milk and gas at the same time. I do budget my money, your taxes and the stagnant pay leave me at a stand still.

4) Please. Love thy neighbor and help figure out an adequate pay system for the DSP field.