

Rebecca Ravas
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

Hi,

My name is Rebecca Ravas. I am a physical therapist who works with children and adults at United Cerebral Palsy. Staffing in the adult classrooms and vocational programming has been an issue. This also spreads to paraprofessionals who work with children and young adults in schools. Without staff, programming cannot get done. Without staff, clients are more at risk with "fill in" staff not knowing the client as well. Without staff, UCP cannot accept all the clients into the day program and vocational training programs. I have worked with children who could not go to school, because there was not a paraprofessional for them in the district. This is a problem. If the goal of DD is to have children and adults out of county board schools and workshops, then there needs to be staffing. The staff need to be able to make a wage that is comparable to Wlamart, McDonalDs...

Please vote in favor of increasing funding to raise wages for workers in the DD system.

Sincerely,

Rebecca L. Ravas, MS, PT
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