

Vivian Nelson
Testimony on HB 33
Supporting the DD Workforce

Hello my name is Vivian Nelson, I am an Office Manager of an agency that is affiliated with the DD system. At this present time our staff count is a mere 7 active DSP employees, and the only reason that our staff is at 7 is due to the case that I have to fill in for our employees call offs and late call-ins! It has been extremely difficult for me as an Office Manager to recruit and maintain an steady employee count due to the very low wage that is offered to the DSP's, If I am not able to offer a potential DSP candidate an competitive wage then I will not be able to provide the much needed services to the individuals of the DODD. We agencies provide a very crucial service to these individuals of the DODD in every aspect of their lives and the DSP's should be compensated for these much needed services that are being provided to them. The individuals of the DODD their family member's and the DODD itself that advocate's for these individual heavily relies on the care and support of the DSP's and they are the sole foundation and reason for an individual of the DODD to maintain and live an life worth living, Going forward what then is the message that is to be sent to the individuals of the DODD their family members and the DODD? your action will speak volumes of how much you do and/or don't care!