

Chairperson Romanchuk, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Medicaid Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 33.

Monique Minor  
Senate Medicaid Committee  
Interested Party Testimony, House Bill 33  
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Chairman Romanchuk, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Medicaid Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today.

My name is Monique Minor and I have been a nurse for 40 years but have been working as an Independent Provider for the Ohio Dept of Medicaid Home Waiver since 1998. When I first started, I was making \$56 for the first hour then \$20 every hour after that. Then Governor Kasich decided to try to get rid of this program but families and everyone working in this program came together and fought to keep it, which we were able to do, but at a cost as we got a HUGE 50% pay cut for our first hour as well as the hours after but not as much. For someone like me who did hourly visits, it was devastating. I had to get a second job as I was a single parent. Now we have had 1 maybe 2 raises around \$1-2 ONLY since the pay cut by Gov Kasich, not even economy raises. Now we find out you are going to give home care aides raises up to \$20 which means they will be making the same as us and some programs make more than us IPs Nurses today.

After 25 years of doing this job and 23 years for my client now, we are not even considered for reasonable raises like I am sure you all are receiving by us the taxpayers. I know that there is a huge nursing problem and if you don't add a raise that will be appropriate for us nurses today then majority of people who need our assistance won't be able to find nursing as we are exhausted and tired of being left out. I am getting no benefits of any kind doing this job. My client knows if I leave her she will have a difficult time finding someone as I am her main nurse. I can't continue to work at this low of pay rate anymore. I believe LPNs should receive \$46 per hour. Non of this only first hour but continual hourly rates. And RNs \$56 per hour. This covers the fact we get no benefits of any kind plus we have to pay higher taxes as we are self-employed. So I request you consider my testimony as well as the others you will hear from today. We do this because we love our clients and our jobs or we would have left a long time ago but after seeing that we aren't even considered for a raise I find it insulting and disheartening. It will be your fault for putting these people in nursing homes or even possibly homeless if they can't find nurses like us. One day you all will need us and when you can't find a nurse then you will think back to what is happening to our clients as well as us nurses today as you will be in the same situation. God forbid.

Thank you,

Monique Minor IP LPN/MED