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I would like to give proponent testimony for H.B. 225

Good Afternoon, Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Lear, Ranking Member McNally, and members of the House Commerce and Labor Committee,

My name is Patricia McPherson, and I am honored to stand before you in support of H.B.225.

This is a much-needed bill for disabled people to make fair wages, offered employment benefits and be a successful thriving person in their workplace.

This discriminating issue has been a barrier for employees with disabilities, which has left them out of the Ohio Employment First initiative mandated by the Ohio governor. Therefore, how can companies say that these individuals are employees, when they are not provided the same benefit packages as their “so called normal co-workers.” We must remove this barrier and provide equal pay for equal work.

I am in support of this bill that will offer disabled employees an opportunity to transition from subminimum wage to competitive employment. No one can live on \$1 per hour anywhere in the United States. We must do away with this humiliating certificate.

Thank you for your support!

