

MaryEllen Greene
Portland
LD 1932

Testimony of Mary Ellen Greene

LD 1932: An Act to Support Essential Support Workers and Enhance Workforce Development

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

January 20, 2026

Good afternoon, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and esteemed members of the Health and Human Services Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of LD 1932: An Act to Support Essential Support Workers and Enhance Workforce Development.

My name is Mary Ellen Greene, I have been working for Goodwill for 33 years since 1993 and I am sales associate where I price glasses, dishes and pictures frames.

I have been with 3-rivers for 9 years and I like to go out in the community and go shopping with the staff.

I think DSP is so helpful to all of us here at the house;

DSPs support us to make sure we get our appointments on time, and we get our rides to work and day program.

We let the staff know when we need meds refill. We should always have someone in the kitchen when we are cooking with the hot stove.

I get up early in the morning to get ready to start my day. I am always safe with my friends and family.

I would let the staff know if someone fell on the floor and they could not get up. I always will go to staff if I get upset sometimes. I got a lot of support from the staff with the help of making sure that we have food in the house.

The overnight should always check on us if we are asleep or awake at nighttime. One of the staff that worked with us left the company and did not come back at all without telling us. When the staff left, it was not comfortable at all, we always had good staff that stayed and help us a lot.

I think that support workers should be supported because they help me and my housemates with lots of things to live good life.

I hope Lawmakers understand how DSPs are important to us in our life.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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