

I am writing in support of House bill 1012 Our 6-year old had a prenatal diagnosis and has been using Early Intervention services since he was three weeks old and out of the NICU. Early Intervention was able to provide support services in our home to assist with his development. We have also utilized in home respite services through Poppy's Promise since he was three years old. Our son was constantly sick with pneumonia his first few years of life. We ultimately decided to get approval for in home DD services to help keep him healthy as he does not create antibodies to fight pneumonia. Our DD provider has been an absolute blessing for our family. She helps get him to his six therapies he goes to outside of school hours so I can continue to work and save time on travel. She attends all of his therapies either independently with him or simultaneously with me and him so she can implement the skills he learns in therapies so he has consistent support throughout his day. We consider her part of our family and the providers at Poppy's Promise have been amazing. With the increasing costs due to inflation I am advocating for an increase in wages so their wages continue to be competitive so children like our son can have consistent and quality care that support their development and health.