



January 28, 2019

Chair Monnes Anderson, Vice Chair Linthicum, members of the committee. My name is Kyndall Mason; I am a political and policy strategist for SEIU Local 503, focusing on long term care. SEIU represents more than 30,000 long term care workers, nearly 25,000 of them being home care workers. I am submitting this testimony on behalf of those workers in an effort to bring insight and emphasis due diligence in conducting a study, as suggested in SB 526.

In 2017, APD conducted a time study, for home care workers, as a way to understand how to restructure hours and make sure the state is accurately appropriating funds and service plans to people who receive services and supports. We, as an organization representing more than 65,000 workers in total, understand the importance of teasing out details so that not only are things running efficiently, but also appropriately. We supported the time study as a way to detail the hard work home care workers do day in and day out.

What APD ended up with was a study that was statistically invalid, as stated on the first page of the report. This time study, however, was consistently referenced throughout what amounted to reduced hours in service plans throughout the system and lost wages for workers. SEIU thinks it's important to continue to understand the work that publicly funded health care and support professionals do. We also think it is important to remain vigilant throughout the process and understand that studies like this affect people's lives and have a ripple effect throughout the system. Oregon must work to make sure studies like this are full of integrity and can withstand scrutiny.

Thank you for your time today, and for considering this piece of legislation.

Kyndall Mason
Political & Policy Strategist
SEIU Local 503

SERVICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION
LOCAL 503

PO Box 12159
Salem, OR 97309-1259

1730 Commercial St. SE
Salem, OR 97302

6401 SE Foster Rd.
Portland, OR 97206

1.800.452.2146
www.seiu503.org