

## **SF 2782 Labor Omnibus Bill**

Thank You Senator Marty and Senator McEwen and the Finance Committee for taking the time to read through my testimony.

My name is Nicole Hayes from Eden Prairie and I am a fulltime PCA who cares for a 6-year-old medically complex kiddo as well as a 22-year-old severely autistic male and I feel like this bill is super important. There is a population of people who are invisible here- invisible because sometimes we aren't going out as the normal conveniences available to the general public aren't available for those who have special needs.

The world in general has been created for typical people- granted, typical people make up the biggest portion of the population. Until someone has or cares for someone who cannot simply use a regular restroom, there is not much thought given about it. But this one simple thing can be a deal breaker for those of us who need different accommodations.

As an example, my outings with the 6-year-old child revolve around feedings and bathroom schedules. He is unable-for the most part- to use public toilets, we already need to carry a potty seat around with us all day to accommodate his needs. He is 40 pounds now and needs a larger changing table for transfers. The other option is really fast outings not too far from the comforts of home.

Using a restroom while out and about is something we absolutely take for granted. It will be a game changer for those souls in bodies that do not work the way ours do, and the people who love and care for them.