



Below is a template that you can use to write an email to your legislators requesting they support SB20

Date: [add date]

To: [add email of legislator],

From: [your name, contact info]

RE: Support SB20

Dear [Name of Senator or Representative],

SB20 will allow **Oregonians with disabilities to work, maintain private insurance, and remain eligible for Medicaid coverage** for their health care and long-term supports and services (LTSS) needs.

SB20 will allow the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) to ignore restrictive income and asset Medicaid eligibility caps for the Employed People with Disabilities (EPD) program that keep disabled people in poverty. This allows employed Oregonians with disabilities to pursue career growth that supports health and well-being. Health and employment equity allows workers with disabilities to thrive. You can learn more about this legislation at [www.disabilityequitycoalition.org](http://www.disabilityequitycoalition.org).

I'm requesting that you support this legislation because [add your personal reasons - below are some talking points you can include].

Please support SB20. It will create employment equity for Oregonians with disabilities that ushers in new pathways to prosperity, innovation, and health for Oregon's disability community.

Thank you!

[your name]

[your contact info and city]



## Talking Points

- SB20 promotes equity in the workforce by including people with disabilities in the workforce.
- SB20 promotes equity in the workforce by allowing people with disabilities to graduate into management positions where policy is made.
- Too many people with disabilities are afraid to work for fear of losing their Oregon Health Plan and/or in-home care.
- The cost of in-home care easily exceeds the amount of money that many people with disabilities can earn.
- For working people with disabilities, employer-sponsored insurance does not cover the long-term supports and services they need. Only the Oregon Health Plan offers this. SB20 would let these workers keep both with OHP as secondary insurance, saving Oregon money.
- The Employed Persons with Disabilities Program (EPD) inside Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) allows Medicaid recipients to keep their Oregon Health Plan and/or in-home care while they work. However, the income and resource limits are very low and unlivable.
- People with disabilities who work are healthier and have lower healthcare costs than those who do not.
- Working people with disabilities cannot take pay raises after their monthly wages exceed EPD income limits. Finding jobs that pay less than these limits is difficult and unfair.
- Working people with disabilities cannot save money for unforeseen circumstances beyond EPD resource limits.
- Other states like Washington and Maryland are removing income and resource limits from their Buy-In programs for workers with disabilities.