

Chair Noor and Members of the Human Service Finance Committee,

My name is Mary Gaasch and I am the Director of Advocacy and Community Relations for Hammer Residences. Before my current role, I spent many years in direct service to people with intellectual disabilities, including in our ICF homes.

We support HF 568. Our ICF homes provide critical supports for folks who are aging or who have complex needs. The workforce crisis threatens our ability to continue to provide quality care in these settings. The struggle to staff our ICF facilities at current rates is real. This legislation is critical to helping us attract and retain the staff who provide these vital services.

Thank you for your service,

Mary Gaasch
Director of Advocacy and Community Relations
Hammer