

# Comment Report

HF 264

A bill for an act exempting from the individual income tax the wages of individuals who provide services to disabled individuals and including effective date and applicability provisions.(See HF 2709.)

Subcommittee Members: Lundgren-CH, Best, Wilson

Date: 03/27/2024

Time: 08:00 AM

Location: RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult

**Name:** Di Findley

**Comment:** We are registered opposed to this bill because it does not include the entirety of the direct care workforce. Wages have remained stagnant since 2019 for those providing care or support for Iowans of all ages and abilities (recently released direct care worker wage brief). Services are provided in the homes of consumers, assisted living, residential care facilities, nursing homes, group homes, hospices, and other settings. Is it right to single out one subset of this large and essential workforce? Is that the right message to send to direct care workers serving different populations? And is it right to give a competitive edge to one type of employer over another? The workforce and employers could be better served through an interim committee that steps back and looks at the wage issues through the lenses of all direct care workers and employment settings. Thank you. Di Findley