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STATEMENT

On State House Passage of Permanent \$2.00 Hourly Wage Increase for Direct Care Workers

The Michigan House of Representatives last night passed a Fiscal Year 2022 budget bill that includes a permanent \$2.00 hourly wage increase for the state's Direct Care Workers.

The state's advocacy organizations and employers who help support Michigan residents with developmental disabilities and other cognitive impairments today thanked state House members for their support and expressed their optimism about working with allies in the Senate to move toward a final agreement that can help meet the critical behavioral health needs of our state.

"This gives great hope to tens of thousands of Direct Care Workers statewide—who have been earning too little for far too long—and to the individuals and families that depend on them," said Sherri Boyd, executive director of The Arc Michigan. "It is a positive first step. We're looking forward to continuing our conversations with Senate leaders to further strengthen state funding support for Direct Care Workers. It is what our most vulnerable residents and families deserve."

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