



May 20th, 2026

House Education and the Workforce Committee
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6100

To Chair Walberg and Ranking Member Scott,

The undersigned co-chairs of the Collaboration to Promote Self-Determination (CPSD) write to express opposition to the Restoration of Employment Choice for Adults with Disabilities Act (H.R. 8736) and its markup. We respectfully urge the Committee to vote “no” on the motion to order the bill reported to the House.

Founded in 2007, the Collaboration to Promote Self-Determination (CPSD) is an advocacy coalition of more than a dozen organizations including and representing people with disabilities, with a particular focus on those with intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD), their families, the professionals who support them, and disability service agencies. CPSD advocates for comprehensive, innovative public policy reform that eliminates barriers to employment and financial security. Our goal is to promote opportunities for people with IDD to lead independent, self-determined lives in their communities.

Section 511 of the Rehabilitation Act creates necessary safeguards against the use of subminimum wage. In contrast, H.R. 8736 would weaken those safeguards and make an antiquated, discriminatory practice more prevalent and accessible. The [U.S. Commission on Civil Rights](#)—after site visits to sheltered workshops—reported that 14(c) employers are not providing professional development, such as job training or career counseling. What’s more, the [Washington Post](#) found that “about one in three current 14(c) employers have failed to correctly pay wages, but that is probably an undercount because few are investigated each year.”

Meaningful alternatives to 14(c) are available, and former 14(c) workers successfully transition into competitive employment with the right supports. For example, amongst the eight states that ended 14(c) before 2022, the [Washington Post](#) found that “employment rates for adults with cognitive disabilities increased by at least 14% after state programs were canceled, when adjusted for overall employment rate growth”. H.R. 8736 would undo this progress by favoring a bad choice over better ones. Consequently, H.R. 8736 would disincentivize workers with disabilities and their families from making *well-informed* choices about more effective options.

We instead urge the House Education and the Workforce Committee to support the bipartisan Transformation to Competitive Integrated Employment Act (H.R. 4771) during the 119th Congress. [CPSD’s allies at the End Subminimum Wage Coalition sent your offices a letter about TCIEA November 2nd, 2024.](#)

Should your offices have questions or like to meet virtually, please contact CPSD’s co-chairs Nina Stoller (Nstoller@autisticadvocacy.org) and Stephanie Flynt McEben (Stephanie.McEben@ndrn.org).

Sincerely,

The Co-Chairs of the Collaboration to Promote Self-Determination (CPSD)
Nina Stoller: Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN)
Stephanie Flynt McEben: National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)