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MEASURE: <u>HB 2669</u>
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April 3, 2013

The Honorable Margaret Doherty, Chair House Business & Labor Committee 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Chairwoman Doherty:

AARP Oregon supports House Bill 2669.

AARP Oregon provides a variety of volunteer opportunities as well as intern opportunities for graduate students. AARP believes that volunteers and interns should be treated with respect and afforded the same protections as other employees.

Oregon statute speaks entirely to protections for employees and does not offer specific protections for interns and volunteers. Since student interns and volunteers are not technically "employees", state courts may find that ORS 659A and other workplace anti-discrimination protections do not apply to them.

HB 2669 clarifies that current civil rights protections apply to: (1) any person performing work for educational purposes, whether or not receiving payment or any form of compensation or benefit; and (2) a person performing services who does not receive a salary, fee or other form of compensation or benefit.

Your consideration of this issue is appreciated and AARP Oregon urges your support of House Bill 2669.

Sincerely,

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**Rick Bennett Director of Government Relations** AARP Oregon