## Campaign for Oregon's Seniors People with Disabilities

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## INDEPENDENCE • CHOICE • DIGNITY

AARP Oregon

Advocacy Coalition of Seniors and People with Disabilities

Alzheimer's Association Oregon Chapter

Brain Injury Association of Oregon

Disability Services Advisory Council of Clackamas County

Elders in Action Commission

Governor's Commission on Senior Services

Impact Northwest

Independent Living Resources

LeadingAge Oregon

Long Term Care Advisory Committee

Making Oregon Vital for Elders (MOVE)

Multnomah County Disability Services Advisory Council

National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Oregon Chapter

O4AD (Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities)

Oregon AFSCME Council 75

Oregon Alliance for Retired Americans

Oregon Health Care Association

Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens

Oregon Transit Association

Parkinson's Resources of Oregon

Save Oregon Seniors

Seniors Serving Oregon Coalition

Service Employees International Union

United Seniors of Oregon

Urban League of Portland

## HB 2599 - Vulnerable Populations and Public Utilities

The members of the Campaign for Oregon's Seniors and People with Disabilities are pleased to offer our support of HB 2599. This bill looks at the very important issue of utility disconnection for vulnerable individuals.

The Campaign is committed to supporting the independence, dignity and choice for Oregon's vulnerable individuals and helping find ways for people to remain in their own home and community. HB 2599 opens the conversation about the safety net that must be in place to honor this commitment.

There are times when individuals are in a situation that, without electric or gas in place, would jeopardize their health and even their life. This can jeopardize the ability of a power wheelchair to be recharged, medical equipment to remain functional and a home to remain at a safe temperature in extreme weather.

The Campaign supports this bill, which would help protect our most vulnerable and find solutions that would not threaten the health or safety of our seniors and people with disabilities.

We thank you for your consideration.