

Residential Facilities Advisory Committee

March 27, 2015

Joint Committee On Ways and Means SubCommittee On Public Safety Via email to WaysandMeans.PublicSafetySub@state.or.us Dan Dunham, Chair Corvallis Bill Bard, Vice-Chair Portland Teena Ainslie Portland Kelly Breshears Salem Michele Edwards Baker City Claudia Kyle Salem Betsy Welch Milwaukie

We are writing you today in support of an item in the Attorney General's budget pertaining to the creation of a dedicated prosecutor in that office to aggressively pursue those who abuse the elderly—particularly on financial matters.

While much of this abuse takes place in unlicensed community settings, the result directly impacts our populations in licensed long-term care, and is of serious concern to this Committee. We are all aware of the growing numbers of seniors who become vulnerable to abuse as the baby boomer tsunami grows. It is hoped that giving the Attorney General's office the resource requested in this budget will help to both protect these citizens and preserve the assets they have accumulated for funding their care needs.

This Residential Facilities Advisory Committee joins other senior advocates in urging your approval of this item for the next biennium.

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Chair

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Vice-Chair

3855 Wolverine NE, Suite 6 Salem, OR 97305-1251 503.378.6533 Toll Free 1.800.522.2602 TTY 711 FAX 503.373.0852 www.oregon.gov/LTCO

The Residential Facilities Advisory Committee monitors the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program and advises the Governor and the Legislature pursuant to ORS 441.137-147. Seven members are appointed by the Governor and four by the Legislative Leadership.