



HB 4076- Task Force on Age Discrimination

Chair Barker and Members of the Committee

The Oregon Women's Rights Coalition stands fully supportive of this legislation to create a Task Force on Age Discrimination.

There are many consequences of age discrimination in employment.

Being passed over for a promotion because of age will impact the security of the worker in retirement.

Not being hired for a job due to age also has implications for a person's future and economic stability as an older person.

Those effects impact not only the individual, but society.

As an example, when a person qualifies for Medicare, if their income is not sufficient the person can be determined to be a dual eligible. The person qualifies for both Medicare and Medicaid and their premiums and co-pays are covered through the Medicaid program.

For example, the cost in 2007 in Oregon:

Medicare-Medicaid Enrollee State Profile | Oregon U.S. Department of Health and Human Services | Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Expenditures in Oregon:

Medicare: \$4.7B Medicare-Medicaid Enrollee MEDICARE: \$1.1B (15% of participants)

Medicaid: \$2.2B Medicare-Medicaid Enrollee MEDICAID: \$724.4M (17 % of participants) 1.

This potential result of age discrimination for women is reflective in the Dual Eligible figures.

In 2007 of those over age 65 females were 70% of the dual eligibles.<sup>1</sup>

In the OHSU study in 2011 the percentage of female dual eligibles over 65 was in the low 60%.<sup>2</sup>

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1. Medicare Medicaid Enrollee State Profile | Oregon

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services | Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service 2007 statistics

.2 OHSU Center fOr Health SyStemS Assessing the Effects of Coordinated Care Organizations on Dual-Eligibles in Oregon