

My name is Ayla Bussel. I was raised in Eugene and graduated from Oregon State University in June 2020. My grandmother has lived at The Rawlin Memory Care Facility in Eugene for nearly two years. I am writing to you today to ask that you stand as a strong and fierce advocate for Senate Bill 714.

Throughout my last year of college, I heard horrible stories of how the workers at The Rawlin were treated by management. I remember breaking down and crying many times after learning that my grandma was deprived of the care she so desperately needs.??The staff and the residents at The Rawlin are barely scraping by. The people who take care of my grandma, and so many other residents, really are amazing. I don't know how they do it, especially working such long hours, double shifts and not getting the training they need to do their jobs. When you think about your parents and grandparents, are you okay with knowing that they are being mistreated, neglected and deprived of basic needs due to mismanagement? I'm definitely not. If we want to support high quality senior living facilities in Oregon, then we must provide high quality training and resources to the staff who work there. I have heard many stories about local senior citizens spending their final days on this Earth alone in these facilities because there are no staff members available to sit with them and provide care and comfort. I have heard about cases of bed sores, lack of attention to hygienic concerns and neglect due to short staffing and insufficient resources. Right now, these residential care staff are doing the best they can, but residents are suffering without the help they so desperately need. Their voices are silenced behind the doors of large profitable residential care corporations. ??If this bill passes, we will be supporting facilities that actually care about their workers and residents. We will be providing adequate resources to residential care staff. Family members, like me, will rest easy at night knowing that their loved ones are being treated with the highest level of care.

Again I am asking you; please support and pass Senate Bill 714. Your constituents will thank you.