

Chair Gelser, Vice Chair Anderson, members of the committee, for the record, my name is Jessica Bodle. I am a Caregiver at an assisted living facility and I am asking you to support Senate Bill 714. Myself and my coworkers put every ounce of energy we have into providing our residents with the care they deserve but because of staffing levels, it often is just not enough. A vital part of the care our residents receive are range of motion exercises and assisted walking. These exercises are essential for improving and maintaining their mobility and quality of life but they take ten to fifteen minutes to perform. If we have other residents needing to be toileted, or showered or dressed for the day or fed, or their bed changed because of incontinence, we simply do not have time to perform these duties. One of our residents says "All I want to do is walk, and everytime I ask, you say you don't have time". It breaks my heart.

Another effect understaffing has, is that many times people are lying in their own waste. One of my residents has to be changed in bed, using a hooyer lift and two people to assist. Because it requires a significant amount of time and a second staff member, he is often forced to wait for long periods of time. No one should be forced to lay in their own waste.

Only clearly defined staffing ratios will begin to address these problems. Many of my residents cannot speak for themselves. I urge you on their behalf to support SB 714.

Thank you

Jessica Bodle
39367 Cascadia Village Dr.
Sandy, OR
Tel (503) 875-0401