

Chair Holvey, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Sosa, and Members of the Committee

I support House Bill 2800. Please vote Yes.

Not everyone has the benefit of my experience. My employer--Rogue Community College in Grants Pass, Oregon-- did not discriminate by age, so I was able to work with young, middle-aged, and older employees in various positions around the college, from food service to groundskeepers to maintenance, to clerical staff and right with them both full- and part-time faculty and administrators, too.

Our students also came in all ages and from all backgrounds. The youngest student I had in a class attended (with permission from his high school) at age 14; the oldest was 85 and he was a delight to have in class. My "senior" student had a degree from George Washington University in DC, so I asked him why he was in an introductory US History Class. His response: " I want to see what the historians recorded since 1939." He was a World War II vet and added tremendously to the class, as he'd lived the history that the younger students were learning.

Older people know a lot. They have a good work ethic. They can and do learn new things and are not averse to change. Even better, they have a "history" in their workplace that is very difficult to replace. Value them.

I am a voter and I vote in every election and on every measure.

Eleanor Marie Mueller
Salem, OR 97306-2890