



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Human Services

Office of Aging and People with Disabilities

Office of the Director
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Date: January 31, 2025

TO: The Honorable Sara Gelsner Blouin, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Jane-ellen Weidanz, Deputy Director of Policy
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SUBJECT: Senate Bill 130

Chair Gelsner Blouin, Vice Chair Linthicum, and members of the committee, I am Jane-ellen Weidanz, Deputy Director of Policy in the Office of Aging and People with Disabilities (APD), Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS). I am here to testify on Senate Bill 130.

SB 130 creates a Governor-appointed, nine member task force to identify barriers to recruitment and retention of case managers (CMs) and adult protective services (APS) workers who serve older adults and people with disabilities. The task force would identify best practices for recruitment and retention from other states, and provide solutions to improve current recruitment and retention rates for this workforce. To do so, SB 130 provides several areas for the task force to explore, such as examining applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations, strategies for reducing unnecessary administrative burdens, strategies for improving supervision and training, and several other areas of consideration.

The task force would have representatives for the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), ODHS, frontline CM and APS workers, supervisors of these workers, organized labor representing these workers, as well as representatives for Medicaid long term services and supports consumers and providers. The task force would submit a

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report no later than December 15, 2026, to interim legislative committees related to health, making recommendations about consumer access to care; consumer safety; federal regulatory requirements; administrative burdens on staff, managers, supervisors, and agencies; and needed resources.

Regarding SB 130, APD understands the challenges to recruitment and retention of CM and APS workers, and workforce recruitment and retention is, along with safety and equity, a priority focus area for APD's ongoing work. To this end, we wanted the committee to be aware that APD is working with the Human Services Group to study the case management system. This study is related to the work recommended by the Joint Task Force on Hospital Discharge Challenges in the 2023-2024 Interim.

ODHS has also embarked on a review of the workload models that establish the time case management and adult protective services workers' job duties and tasks take. These workload models result in the number of case manager and adult protective services workers and supporting staff the department and the AAAs earn.

If this legislation is passed, APD is happy to collaborate with the AAAs, affected unions and other community partners to conduct this study. APD is also willing to provide information and technical assistance for work on any amendments to SB 130 during the 2025 Legislative Session. And if the Legislature prefers this work is contracted out, APD will conduct a procurement process that will comply with state contracting statutes and rules.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 130, and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.