

2-18-25

Dear Oregon Legislators,

I am a 66 year-old Oregonian who is fortunate enough work two jobs six days a week. I want to continue to work as a way to bolster my financial situation for the rough years ahead. Who knows what they may bring.

I know that other Oregonians age 50 plus struggle to find work because employers generally prefer to hire (and retain) younger workers. Without work, older adults often can't pay their bills and may not have savings to rely on. Life can fall apart quickly without a paycheck and with no job prospects.

Please support HB3187. It will help older job applicants have a chance to get hired and not have their applications weeded out. This age group needs to prepare for retirement in their final years of employability, or they will be a burden on Medicaid and other entitlement programs.

Many older workers bring rich experience and a strong work ethic to their place of employment. This includes reliability, steady focus on tasks at hand, even loyalty to the brand. And the ability to connect with others be helpful. We learned a lot of great hard and soft skills before the advent of the Internet.

As the current federal administration cuts funding for desperately needed benefits, unemployment rises, and more responsibility falls on the States, Oregon needs to be ready to prevent homelessness among older adults. HB3187 could make a difference.

Sincerely,

Carolyn McGrath

2387 NW Northrup St #1

Portland OR 97210