

Submitter: Connie Amos

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5020

The Oregon Public Guardian needs continued funding to ensure public guardians available to support safe discharges of patients with dementia who are medically ready to leave Oregon hospitals but have no family, friends, or funding to provide guardianship for safe community placement. These are the most vulnerable individuals who need support in decision making and finding the best placement. Without sufficient public guardians, these patients will remain in the hospital, taking acute care hospital beds and causing people needing acute care to remain in the emergency department or in a small hospital, awaiting much needed surgeries or treatments.