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Date: March 3, 2025

To: Chair Hartman, Vice-Chair Nguyen, Vice-Chair Scharf,
and Members of the House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

From: LeadingAge Oregon

Subject: Support for HB 3497 – Planning for Oregon’s Aging Population

LeadingAge Oregon is an association of nonprofit and mission driven organizations dedicated to advancing quality aging services. On behalf of LeadingAge Oregon, we urge support of HB 3497, which will help Oregon plan for its growing aging population. As the number of older adults surpasses the number of children, the impact will be felt across our economy, workforce, housing, health care, and caregiving systems. HB 3497 takes a thoughtful, forward-looking approach to ensure Oregon is prepared.

We need systematic and intentional change to ensure that the needs and outcomes of older adults are considered in policies and decision-making. Too often, this demographic is overlooked, despite the critical role older adults play in our communities and economy.

By passing HB 3497, we can build a stronger, more resilient future for older adults while also supporting families, caregivers, and communities. We urge your support for this important legislation and appreciate your leadership in making Oregon an age friendly state.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Milligan
Chief Executive Officer
LeadingAge Oregon