

Dear Senator Gelser-Blouin, Senator Patterson and Members of the Committee

I am writing in support of SB 739.

I attended the hearing in May of 2024 regarding the untimely, tragic death of Ki Soon Hyun in December of 2023.

I am also aware of the tragic death in August of 2024, of a former resident at Aspen Ridge, a senior care facility in Bend, who died because she was left unmonitored in the sun, for hours.

This winter, I attended a number of meetings regarding the substance and specifics of SB 739 and am in full support of what it provides to protect some of our most vulnerable, fragile Oregon residents living in long term care facilities.

There should be NO exceptions to statutory licensing requirements for residential care facilities.

New residential care facilities and memory care facility operators should have stronger, not weaker licensing requirements.

The DHS should conduct regular, **unannounced** inspections of new residential care facilities.

As the daughter of a long-term memory care resident in a facility in Springfield who died in 2023, I feel particularly invested in the value of more regulation, oversight, transparency and accountability from these facilities, not the status quo, or less.

Respectfully,

Jewel Nelson

Eugene