



## NorthWest Senior & Disability Services

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Senator Kayse Jama,  
Chair, Senate Committee on Rules  
Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, OR

Dear Chair Jama and the Senate Committee on Rules,

On behalf of **NorthWest Senior and Disability Services (NWSDS)**, we express our strong support for **Senate Concurrent Resolution 25 (SCR 25)** honoring the life and contributions of **Ruth McEwen**.

**Ruth McEwen dedicated more than 40 years to advocating for older adults and individuals with disabilities**, leaving a profound and lasting impact on Oregon's long-term care system. As a member of both the Senior Advisory Council and Disability Advisory Council at NWSDS, Ruth was instrumental in shaping policies and programs that continue to serve Oregonians today. Her unwavering commitment to systemic change helped lead Oregon's transition from institutional care to community-based services, ensuring that individuals could live with dignity and independence.

Ruth was well known in the Oregon State Capitol, where she engaged with legislators, agency leaders, and community stakeholders to improve services and protections for some of the most vulnerable amongst us. Her expertise and advocacy informed key policy and budget discussions, and she remained a constant force for progress.

**Her impact extended beyond legislative work. Ruth was a mentor, a leader, and a voice for those often unheard. She fought for accessibility, equity, and person-centered care, leaving a legacy that will continue to guide our work at NWSDS and across the state.**

We encourage all members of the Committee to **support and pass SCR 25** to recognize Ruth's extraordinary contributions and honor the indelible mark she left on Oregon's long-term care system.

Thank you for considering this resolution in her memory.

Sincerely,

**Charlene Gibb**  
Director of Programs  
NorthWest Senior and Disability Services

**Devrey Hachenberg**  
Director of Operations  
NorthWest Senior and Disability Services