

Submitter: Lisa Woodhead

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3838

Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Elmer, Vice-Chair Muñoz, and Members of the House Committee Labor and Workplace Standards,

I strongly urge you to vote NO on HB 3838. SEIU is forcing its way into home and community[1]based care facilities, where it has little presence, in an attempt to take control of wages, benefits, working conditions, and staffing. This bill circumvents negotiations and collective bargaining while driving up costs for consumers living on fixed incomes. HB 3838 is bad policy that will destabilize an already fragile sector, taking away a community's ability to make employee-related decisions based on resident needs, workforce realities, and financial constraints. Instead of strengthening the workforce, this bill will worsen staffing challenges by adding unnecessary bureaucracy, increasing costs, and diverting focus away from providing care for older adults. This bill imposes more regulations and gives sweeping authority to an unbalanced board, limiting providers' ability to operate, raising costs for seniors, and putting facilities at risk of closure. It forces all provider organizations, even those serving private-pay clients, to comply with state-imposed mandates. HB 3838 isn't about helping caregivers or residents, it's about expanding SEIU's power at the expense of Oregon's seniors, people with disabilities, and their families. Please vote NO on HB 3838 to protect seniors and their access to care.