

Submitter: Douglas Dicharry  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3838

I urge the committee to reject HB 3838 relating to the Home and Community-Based Services Workforce Standards Board.

- House Bill 3838 is an unnecessary overreach, as Oregon already has some of the strongest staffing and regulatory standards in the country, along with relatively high caregiver wages. We believe the Legislature, rather than a new board, should address any industry concerns.
- Cost concerns are a major issue. New mandates imposed by the board could substantially increase the cost of care without a clear funding plan. Medicaid rates, which already struggle to cover current costs, may not be sufficient to support the changes.
- The bill could put financial strain on small and rural care providers, leading to potential closures, including small nonprofits are already struggling to stay afloat, and additional regulatory burdens could push them over the edge.
- The proposed board appears to be an unnecessary bureaucracy that duplicates existing oversight, adding another layer of government intervention without a clear benefit to patients or workers, creating inefficiencies rather than solving industry problems.
- This bill grants SEIU excessive power, including access to workers' personal contact information, which could be used to boost union membership. This appears to be more about expanding SEIU's reach than improving care standards.

Please reject this unnecessary legislation that could increase costs and place undue burdens on retirees, especially those living on limited income.