

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

Chair Grayber, Vice Chair Elmer, and members of the committee, my name is Brad Litle and I am here today on behalf of Ohana Ventures in opposition to HB 3838.

Ohana Ventures is a senior care provider with vibrant communities up and down the I 5 corridor. We have communities in Hillsboro, Gresham, Salem, Eugene, Grants Pass and Medford with a diverse population of over 1400 employees and residents. We provide high quality care to our vulnerable residents by supporting a stable-engaged management team and well-trained staff. We achieve the stability of our staff by constantly evaluating and improving our pay and benefits. Some examples are flexible schedules, benefits, education pay, floating holiday pay, and performance bonuses. Our ability to flex and make changes quickly is the critical component for Ohana Ventures and other senior care providers that are SUCCEEDING in today's challenging regulatory environment.

We currently are responsible for maintaining minimum standards set by 9 different agencies including DHS, OHA, BOLI and OSHA to name a few. These agencies already regulate all areas included in HB3838 - Wages, Hours, Staffing levels, education requirements, health and safety and benefits. HB3838 WOULD add another layer of unnecessary regulation.

The current level of regulation has already caused several innovative providers to invest in states OTHER than Oregon. Smaller – often rural and single home operators that cannot keep up with the current regulations have closed their doors or limited access to Medicaid clients. Adding more layers of redundant regulation will limit Senior care investment in Oregon and further limit access to services for Medicaid patients all together. This comes at a time when we need MORE access to care especially for seniors and people with disabilities on fixed incomes.

We are strongly opposed to HB 3838 as it will regulate innovation and limit or eliminate access to Medicaid for seniors in Oregon.