

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

Dear Chair Grayber, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Muñoz, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of House Bill 3838.

Oregon urgently needs 65,000 more care providers by 2030 but current conditions make it one of the hardest positions to fill and retain workers.

Home and community-based care workers are paid some of the lowest wages for some of the hardest work. When care workers are not paid a living wage, provided training, benefits, and safe workplaces, they are more likely to experience burnout, injury, and turnover, leading to workforce shortages.

Workforce standard boards can help end the cycle of economic injustice by implementing sector-wide, measurable standards. By bringing workers and industry leaders together, the workforce standards board can solve challenges with recruitment, training and retention, and improve workplace safety for essential care workers, uplifting their firsthand experiences without fear of retaliation.

Please vote YES on HB 3838!

Sincerely,
Michelle Graas
Portland, OR