

Submitter: Brandon Trujillo  
On Behalf Of: Adult Foster Care Providers  
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3838

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

My name is Brandon Trujillo, and I serve as the Chief Steward for SEIU Local 858. I am here representing adult foster care providers across the state to express our strong opposition to House Bill 3838. Adult Foster Care Providers in Oregon have a unique setup that enables them to care for vulnerable individuals throughout the state in a personalized, home-like setting which larger facilities cannot offer. These homes allow individuals more choices and opportunities in their lives, such as going on vacations, finding employment, volunteering, and creating a stable connection with the community. Our goal is to ensure that the individuals we serve receive the highest quality care and can enjoy fulfilling lives.

The primary reason for my opposition to this bill is that adult foster homes are currently structured to operate as independent contractors. The passage of this bill would change our status to employees of the board. Adult foster homes already undergo monthly oversight from local CDDPs, annual licensing reviews, and random audits conducted by the state. This triple layer of checks ensures proper care for our individuals and compliance with paperwork and regulatory standards.

However, if the board were to assume control over staffing numbers and salaries, significant financial concerns arise. Many providers already struggle with the effects of high inflation and insufficient rates for the individuals in our care. Requests for SNAP adjustments due to increased care needs often result in rate decreases instead of the necessary increases. As the chief steward, I have communicated with providers statewide who share these challenges. We worry about the sustainability of our businesses should this bill pass and the potential displacement of individuals who have been under our care for years.

In conclusion, I urge you to consider the detrimental impact House Bill 3838 could have on hundreds of foster care providers and thousands of individuals who may lose their homes. I strongly recommend that this bill not be passed, as its implications could significantly disrupt the lives of many struggling individuals.

Thank you,

Brandon