



Essential Services LLC  
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## March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Opposition to HB3838

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**To: Chair Grayber, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Munoz, and Members of the House Committee,**

**Regarding: Opposing HB3838, which would establish the Home and Community-Based Workforce Standards Board.**

My name is Dawn Hooley, and I am the Finance Manager for Essential Services LLC, a state-certified Standard Model Agency that provides in-home and community-based supports for our Intellectual/Developmental Disability (I/DD) community in Oregon.

I am providing verbal testimony on behalf of Essential Services LLC, the Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) that we employ, and the clients that we provide care for. Essential Services LLC opposes HB3838 as its focus is to implement a workforce standards board that would severely impact the foundation of I/DD services. The foundation of I/DD services is person-centered and provides a variety of choices that an individual with disabilities has in choosing whom they want to receive care from. This bill proposes to implement a workforce standards board whose authority would greatly limit these choices. HB3838 proposes to have administrative power that would supersede the administrative procedures already in effect from the Oregon Department of Disabilities Services (ODDS), the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) and the Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) that we are expected to follow.

We agree with the premise that additional oversight is needed from ODDS to ensure that each member of the I/DD community receives person-centered care that is done ethically, professionally, and legally through the venue of their choosing and the provider of their choice. In addition, we agree that all providers should have access to fair wages, benefits, and trainings.

It is the opinion of Essential Services LLC that the passing of HB3838 and the implementation of the Home and Community-Based Workforce Standards Board would result in undue hardship for not only provider agencies and privately owned entities, but PSWs, DSPs and most importantly, the members of the I/DD community. We urge you to vote No on HB3838.

Thank you for your time.