



April 1, 2025

Dear Chair Hartman, Vice Chairs Nguyen and Scharf, and members of the House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services:

The Campaign for Oregon's Seniors & People with Disabilities (the Campaign) is a diverse coalition of organizations representing business, labor, and consumer advocates working together to advance policy that supports Oregon's seniors and people with disabilities. Our shared interests include how Oregon's more than 1,200 adult foster homes (AFH) are licensed, regulated, compensated, administered, and experienced.

While neutral on HB 2956, we request an interim workgroup on increasing resident caps in AFHs.

[HB 2956](#) proposes a pilot program that would raise the cap on the number of residents who may reside within an AFH from five to up to seven for a to-be-determined number of AFHs across Oregon. While our members have different perspectives on the underlying proposal, together we agree that robust engagement is necessary to explore the implications of piloting an increase of the cap for residents per AFH. The Campaign has many questions that cannot be adequately explored within the timeframe available for new policy discussions this session. We are ready and willing to participate fully in an interim process, which is necessary to consider all angles of how these proposed changes would affect how AFHs serve consumers in our state.

Improving provider rates for Adult Foster Homes should be a priority this session.

AFHs play a crucial role in allowing Oregonians to live in home and community-based settings. Medicaid reimbursement rates have not kept pace with the cost of care, especially as resident acuity rises. Earlier this session, Campaign members testified in support of [HB 2560](#), which restructures the rate payment methodology specific to AFHs, to right this deficit. HB 2560 was passed unanimously by this committee, a step for which we are grateful, as we believe that HB 2560 is a critical next step in improving AFH capacity this session.

Our history with conversations to expand AFH resident caps.

The pilot concept contained in HB 2956 was first introduced in 2019 and did not pass ([HB 3270](#)). Some members of the Campaign testified in opposition at that time and requested interim engagement to explore details of how this would work. A workgroup did not occur. In 2024, the Campaign testified in opposition to [SB 1591](#), which would have allowed AFHs that currently serve a maximum of five residents to serve up to seven, without a pilot. During that testimony, we again raised the need for an opportunity to engage affected parties and stakeholders to consider questions and opportunities to resolve concerns. Until this engagement happens, we are concerned about increasing the number of residents AFHs may serve, be it in pilot or permanent form. Resident safety and choice must remain at the forefront of these conversations and considerations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.