

4/01/2025

To whom this may concern,

As the owner of AAA Shepherd's Care Home, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 811, which proposes additional licensing requirements for residential care facilities and adult foster homes in Oregon. While I understand the intent to enhance care standards, I believe this bill will impose undue burdens on small, community-based care providers like ours, potentially compromising the quality and availability of care for our residents.

Our facility prides itself on offering personalized, compassionate care in a homelike environment. The proposed requirements for detailed policies and procedures, as outlined in Section 1 of the bill, would necessitate significant administrative resources that are beyond the capacity of many small providers. This shift in focus from direct resident care to extensive documentation could detract from the time and attention our staff can devote to our residents.

Furthermore, the increased application fees and mandatory in-person site inspections, including specific areas like kitchens, as stipulated in the bill, present financial and operational challenges. For instance, the application fee for a residential care facility with 1 to 15 beds would be set at \$2,000, a substantial increase that could strain our limited budget. These additional costs may force some small facilities to reduce services or, in the worst case, close their doors, thereby reducing care options for vulnerable populations in our community.

While I acknowledge the importance of maintaining high standards in residential care, I urge legislators to consider the disproportionate impact that SB 811 would have on small care homes. I recommend exploring alternative approaches that support quality improvement without imposing excessive administrative and financial burdens on providers.

Thank you for considering my perspective. I am committed to working collaboratively to ensure that any legislative changes enhance the well-being of our residents without compromising the viability of essential care services.

Sincerely,

Nicole Carter

Owner, AAA Shepherd's Care Home