Fire Marshals ASSOCIATION

April 2, 2025

House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services Oregon State Legislature 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

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

On behalf of the Oregon Fire Marshal's Association (OFMA) we oppose HB-2956.

The Oregon Fire Marshal's Association is made up of fire code officials, industry leaders and individuals that are dedicated to the protection of life and property against fire.

OFMA's concern is utilizing Oregon State Legislature to bypass due process in making amendments to the state adopted Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC) and Oregon Fire Code. OSSC allows for 5 or fewer individuals to be cared for within a residential Adult Foster Home. Passing of HB-2956 would allow for 7. This alters the current adopted code language going around a formal code amendment process.

OFMA understands the need for housing and caring for one of our vulnerable populations, but we do strongly feel that following the proven process of amending code needs to be followed.

Shawn Olson Legislative Chair-Oregon Fire Marshal's Association