

Submitter:

Aaron Williams

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3838

My name is Aaron Williams, I am a Registered Nurse. I have worked in the Oregon health care industry for the past 23 years, particularly in community-based care. I have a GREAT concern with HB3838. As a nurse who works in this industry, this will have far greater negative impact on our industry than understood by those who created this bill. Please take into account the 9 key points I would like to bring to your attention:

1. Increased Costs: Establishing a standards board may lead to increased operational costs for care providers. This could stem from compliance with new regulations, training expenses, and potential increases in wages for certified workers. These costs may be passed on to consumers.
2. Bureaucratic Challenges: The creation of a new board may introduce additional bureaucracy, which could slow down decision-making processes and create red tape that complicates the delivery of care.
3. One-Size-Fits-All Approach: Standards established by the board may not account for the unique needs of different communities or individual care settings. A uniform approach may overlook specific local challenges or the diversity of care needs.
4. Workforce Shortages: Stricter training and certification requirements could deter potential workers from entering the field, exacerbating existing workforce shortages in home and community-based care. This could lead to further difficulties in providing adequate care.
5. Resistance from Providers: Care providers might resist the establishment of a standards board due to concerns about the added regulatory burden. This could lead to conflicts between providers and regulatory bodies, impacting collaboration and care delivery.
6. Implementation Delays: The process of establishing the board, developing standards, and rolling out training programs may take time, potentially leading to delays in improving workforce quality and care services.
7. Potential for Inequities: If not carefully designed, the standards may disproportionately impact smaller care providers or those in rural areas, who may lack the resources to comply with new requirements compared to larger organizations.
8. Focus on Compliance Over Care: An emphasis on meeting standards could shift focus away from the quality of care itself, leading to a checkbox mentality where providers prioritize compliance over individualized patient care.
9. Impact on Flexibility: Care settings often require flexibility to respond to unique patient needs. Rigid standards may limit the ability of workers to adapt their care

approaches based on individual circumstances.

I appreciate your time in reading my concerns. This is coming from a nurse who works directly in this industry and understands the implications and impact this bill could make in a negative way.

Sincerely,

Aaron Williams RN