

Date: April 27, 2025
To: Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Re: Support for HB 3497-A



Dear Co-Chair Senator Kate Lieber and Co-Chair Representative Tawna Sanchez, and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is Liz James, and I am writing on behalf of the Oregon LGBTQ+ Aging Coalition. **We are in strong support of HB 3497-A**, which establishes the Shared Future Oregon Task Force. This task force is a critical and foundational step toward developing a Multisector Plan for Aging (MPA) that addresses the growing challenges and opportunities we face due to Oregon's changing demographics.

As Oregon's diverse population ages, we must have coordinated strategies in place to ensure sustainable and equitable housing, caregiving support, health and well-being services, workforce development, and economic vitality. HB 3497-A recognizes this shift and provides a timely opportunity for our systems to catch up and prepare for the future.

Older and aging Oregonians are already in need of coordinated strategies. For the growing populations of older and aging LGBTQIA2S+ and older and aging people living with HIV in Oregon, the groundbreaking [2021 Oregon LGBTQ+ Older Adult Survey](#) provides significant and stunning evidence.

We respectfully urge you to adequately fund and support passage of HB 3497 A.

Thank you on behalf of current and future growing diverse populations of older and aging LGBTQIA2S+ and HIV+ Oregonians.

Sincerely,
Liz James

Chair, Oregon LGBTQ+ Aging Coalition - *Working collaboratively to improve the well-being of older and aging LGBTQIA2S+ Oregonians through research, education and advocacy efforts*