

Submitter: John Grimm  
On Behalf Of: SEIU 503 local858 president John Grimm  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3838

My name is John Grimm, President of SEIU 503 Local 858. I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 3838. I began my career as an adult foster care provider 20 years ago after my wife was diagnosed with a rare brain disease. At that time, we had three young children at home, aged 5, 10, and 12. Opening an adult foster care home allowed me to care for others in need while also being there for my children and wife.

I wish I could support this bill, as continuity of care and ensuring residents receive quality care are especially important to me. However, I recommend that this committee serve as an advisory committee focused on our most vulnerable population. It needs to be more balanced, with committee members who do the work and include both private pay and Medicaid providers.

We keep trying to fix problems by adding more committees and creating ORS for Medicaid-provided facilities at homes without understanding the differences between Medicaid and private pay providers. These differences include not only pay but also the rules we must follow and the frequency of monitoring. For example, a Medicaid adult foster care home undergoes licensing once a year and has case managers visit each resident once a year, resulting in a minimum of six visits annually. In contrast, private pay homes have only one licensing visit per year.

The committee needs members who understand the system and are dedicated to serving the clients. As we face a financial crisis with the baby boomers beginning to need care, we need a committee to focus on providing proper and affordable care, not on increasing the cost of care. Bill 3838 only increases the bureaucracy, paperwork and costs for Medicaid providers that could result in them having to shut down. Adult foster care providers are already underpaid and overworked. This is not the solution.

Thank you  
John Grimm