

Submitter:

Jacob Strava

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3838

Testimony Opposing HB 3838

My name is Jacob Strava, and I own and operate White Lake Care, a small, state-licensed adult care home in Milwaukie, Oregon. I'm writing to voice my opposition to House Bill 3838, a measure that I believe could have serious negative consequences for adult care homes like mine and for the vulnerable individuals we serve.

As both a care provider and a small business owner, I see firsthand the dedication, compassion, and hard work that goes into running a safe, nurturing, and dignified environment for our residents. Adult care homes are a vital part of Oregon's long-term care system, offering a personalized, community-based alternative to institutional facilities. We serve seniors and adults with disabilities who deserve to age in place with dignity and respect.

HB 3838 imposes new mandates that, while perhaps well-intentioned, do not reflect the realities of operating a small, person-centered care setting. Unlike large facilities, we do not have administrative departments or legal teams. We wear all the hats—caregiver, manager, cook, advocate—while navigating complex state regulations and rising operating costs. Any new requirement, even a seemingly minor one, adds pressure to an already strained system.

This bill risks forcing more small providers to close their doors, which would limit access to care for those who need it most and increase the burden on already overwhelmed nursing homes. Many adult care homes, particularly those serving diverse and underserved populations, could be disproportionately affected.

Rather than creating more challenges, I urge lawmakers to work collaboratively with providers to develop solutions that enhance care quality while also supporting the sustainability of this vital care model. Investments in workforce support, provider training, and fairer reimbursement rates would go much further in strengthening Oregon's long-term care infrastructure.

Please do not pass HB 3838. Let's protect the future of adult care homes and the residents who rely on them.

Sincerely, Jacob Strava owner/operator

White Lake care home

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