

Submitter: Peter Mwangi

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3838

Hello, Representatives and community members. My name is Peter Mwangi, an Adult Foster Home operator, Nurse, caregiver, and advocate who has dedicated years to providing compassionate care for vulnerable residents.

I stand before you today not just as a small business owner, but as someone who witnesses daily the impossible choices AFHs face under our current system. House Bill 3838's \$25/hour wage mandate—while admirable in intent—threatens to collapse the very homes that Oregon's most fragile citizens rely on.

The math is undeniable: We receive less than \$75 per day per client—a rate that already forces many AFHs to subsidize care out of pocket. \$75 doesn't cover a motel room, let alone 24/7 skilled care, housing, meals, and medical support. Yet now, we're told to pay caregivers \$25/hour? Where is the funding to make this possible?

Let me be clear: AFHs want to pay living wages. But if the Board truly values 'person-centered care,' ask yourselves: What happens when AFHs close because this bill makes survival impossible? How many vulnerable Oregonians will lose their homes—their *families*—because the state imposed standards without providing resources?

This isn't hypothetical. My own home—and hundreds like it—face an agonizing choice: ****Break the law or break our promise to residents.**** Neither serves our community.

I urge you: Vote NO on HB 3838 unless it includes funding to sustain AFHs. Do not sacrifice Oregon's most vulnerable for an unfunded mandate. Protect our homes. Protect our residents.

Thank you