

House Bill 4091

Written Testimony submitted by:

Kay Metzger, Chair

Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities

Co-Chairs Holvey and Whisnant, Members of the House Committee on General Government and Consumer Protection,

Thank you for receiving this written testimony in support of House Bill 4091. I am the Director of Senior & Disabled Services for the Lane Council of Governments, serving Lane County. S&DS is the Transfer Type B Area Agency on Aging and Disability in Lane County, administering the Medicaid and Food Stamp program for seniors and people with disabilities. Within that role, we have responsibility for licensing of Adult Foster Homes and certification of Home Care Workers, both of which involve a criminal record check review. Additionally, we do Adult Protective Services which includes investigating allegations of abuse to seniors and people with disabilities.

S&DS supports the formation of a workgroup to evaluate the criminal records check processes currently in place, as proposed by HB4091. The criminal records check process is a critical component of creating a safe system of care for our vulnerable population. The Type B Transfer Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities, of which there are four that serve over 50% of the Medicaid clients in Oregon, are keenly interested in any process that might impact the quality of persons providing care. We recommend that a representative from a Type B Transfer Area Agency on Aging and Disability be a part of the workgroup, and look forward to process improvements that might be proposed through this workgroup.