



May 20, 2013

Chair Phil Barnhart
House Committee on Revenue
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Barnhart and Members of the Committee:

O4AD, representing the 17 Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities serving seniors and people with disabilities statewide, is pleased to offer our support of HB 2510, which would allow the opportunity for individuals with inactive deferral accounts to be grandfathered into the program if they were disqualified for either or both of the following reasons:

- If, by 2014, the homeowner had not occupied the homestead for at least 5 years
- If the homeowner had taken out a reverse mortgage.

Area Agencies work with seniors and people with disabilities everyday who are seeking to find ways to stay in their home, remain independent, and in their community for as long as possible. Oregon's Senior and Disabled Property Tax Deferral Program has been a critical element in this goal for many individuals. Setting new criteria in 2011 was a needed step by the Oregon Legislature to preserve the program and keep it operational. The ability to add back groups who were disqualified, as it is monetarily possible continues Oregon's commitment to independence, dignity and choice of our seniors and people with disabilities.

O4AD supports HB 2510 as amended and welcomes being a part of this dialogue.

Thank you.

Nicole Palmateer
O4AD

O4AD works to protect the independence, dignity, choice and safety of Oregon's seniors and people with disabilities.

Area Agencies on Aging, our members, provide long-term care services statewide including home delivered meals, Medicaid services for over 50% of the state and Oregon Project Independence. O4AD's members are responsible for service provision to the majority of seniors and people with disabilities in Oregon. www.o4ad.org