



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, Governor

Oregon Commission for Women
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Testimony in support of SB 1542
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
March 3, 2014

Co-Chairs Sen. Devlin and Rep. Buckley and Committee Members:

The Oregon Commission for Women supports SB 1542 that opens the Home Care Registry to private individuals. While the considerations for expanding the Registry to include private pay consumers, setting rates for their usage of it and other considerations may add complexity and needed support to the role of the Oregon Home Care Commission, we believe that the overall benefit to all Oregon citizens of this bill is essential to assuring high quality home care and ease of access.

Everyone who has struggled to find care for a loved one or arrange it for him/herself knows the difficulties of finding high quality, trained, reliable and credentialed caregivers. And for the caregivers who are a valued part of Oregon's long term care system and our economy, the Registry offers important benefits including standards of professionalism, pay, and training they need to build and maintain a career in the field. To the extent that women throughout Oregon's diverse communities predominate in the caregiving field as daughters to aging parents, as professional caregivers or other role, the OCFW supports this bill for reasons of access and quality. To the extent that it benefits everyone in Oregon providing or needing care, there can be no better reason for our support than access and quality.

Thank you for providing this important hearing for SB 1542. We encourage your positive consideration of the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Vardavas, Chair
Oregon Commission for Women

OR Commission for Women

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