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February 12th, 2015

TO: Joint Committee On Ways and Means SubCommittee On Human Services

Sen. Bates, Rep. Nathanson co-chairs

FROM: Jon Bartholomew, Government Relations Director, AARP Oregon

RE: AARP Support for Long Term Care Ombudsman budget

AARP Oregon is pleased to offer our support for the budget for the office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman proposed by the Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB).

The LTC Ombudsman office is a critical service in Oregon for ensuring quality of life for people living in long term care settings. They have established an excellent reputation for being fair and effective with a limited budget. Indeed, the fact that the office has a large body of trained volunteers who are dedicated to their charge allows for the office to perform services well beyond what might be expected with a budget of their size.

Now that the LTC Ombudsman office has an expanded role due to recent legislative action, we appreciate the inclusion of sufficient resources to be able to carry out their new responsibilities.

We thank you for your continued commitment to the Long Term Care Ombudsman's office.

