



March 12, 2015

Representative Mitch Greenlick, Chair  
House Committee on Health Care  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the House Committee on Health Care:

On behalf of O4AD, the Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony for HB 2937. This bill requires the Oregon Health Authority to look at the provision of medical equipment for individuals and ensure it is suitable for the activities of a person's normal life.

Through our work, we see that in order for an individual to remain as independent as possible, there must be access to appropriate medical equipment. We hear from the individuals we serve that community inclusion, dignity and independence are some of the highest priorities in day-to-day life. Having the capacity to match the best care plan and best array of services and supports to meet those goals is the work of our Case Managers on a daily basis. Often, we do run into the limitations of rule and law that constrain how a care plan can be implemented. Looking at ways to help be more responsive to these needs only helps increase the ability of an individual to remain in the least restrictive care setting possible and able to participate in their community.

We welcome the conversation on this issue that is started in HB 2937 and are available to provide any information on the current processes in place for Medicaid long-term services and supports.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rodney Schroeder  
Chair, O4AD  
Executive Director – Operations. NorthWest Senior & Disability Services (Marion, Polk, Clatsop, Yamhill, Tillamook)