

April 6, 2015

Chair Greenlick and Members of the Committee,

I'm writing this letter as a testimony in support of the new bill HB 3145, which requires the new State Registry of SB 1542 to follow the same rules and regulations that licensed in-home care agencies are required to follow.

As the owner of an in-home care business, I adhere to strict guidelines within both my franchise standards and in compliance of my state of Oregon licensing guidelines. These are established to ensure the highest level of senior care as well as to protect our reputation. We adhere to skills evaluations, annual continuing education requirements, ongoing monitoring of employee and client care plans, and other related paperwork for exceptional care. As I understand HB 1542, key documentation standards will not be mandated or required to be kept for seven years. Furthermore, we maintain professional liability insurance that would not be required for the Home Care Worker Registry. The new bill HB 3145 corrects these critical omissions.

All the rules and regulations established by the Department of Human Services for licensing were established by the legislature to protect seniors and this seems contrary to this mandate. As a small business employer of senior care, I'm very concerned that our state government is now choosing to compete with private business! At the very least, everyone should have to play by the same rules and regulations, especially since they were enacted to protect vulnerable elders.

Thanks for your strong and timely consideration of bill HB 3145.

Regards,

Todd Barth-Owner

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