

**AARP** Real Possibilities in

**Oregon**

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## **AARP Oregon Testimony on HB 2979**

March 16, 2017

TO: House Committee on Health Care, Rep. Greenlick, Chair

FROM: Jon Bartholomew, Government Relations Director, AARP Oregon

On behalf of AARP Oregon's over 500,000 members, I would like to bring your attention to what is hopefully a drafting error in HB 2979. The concerning language is in Section 1, lines 7 and 8 and remove the statutory exemption of Medicaid long term care from the definition of health services. This would represent a major policy change for the state of Oregon.

When this exemption was established, it was after considerable discussion during the creation of Oregon's health care transformation. The legislature and the governor made this decision intentionally after coming to an understanding that it is in the best interest of Oregon's landmark long term care system to not be included in global budgets.

We urge the committee to amend language in section 1 of the printed bill to assure Medicaid funded long term care services continue to be excluded from services covered under CCO global budgets.

