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AARP Oregon Testimony on HB 2661 – Long Term Care Referral Providers

June 26, 2017

TO: Joint Committee On Ways and Means SubCommittee On Human Services, Sen. Steiner Hayward, Rep. Rayfield, Co-Chairs

FROM: Jon Bartholomew, Government Relations Director, AARP Oregon

On behalf of AARP Oregon's over 500,000 members, we offer our support for HB 2661 with the -10 amendments, which establishes oversight of and consumer protection regarding long term care referral providers.

It can be an extremely stressful situation for families when they realize they need to place a loved one in a care community. It is also most likely a situation they never thought much about until things became a crisis. Most of us don't think about the differences between adult foster homes, assisted living communities, or residential care facilities, or how to pay for all of this, until there is an urgent need to know. This is where a long term care referral expert can be invaluable to a family.

These referral providers can help a family make the most appropriate placement for their loved one, taking into account location, needs, desires, finances, and other factors. However, consumers may not know how these providers are paid, how to switch providers, or if they are being shown all their options. HB 2661 is a modest approach to ensuring consumer protection and quality service in this field.

AARP Oregon urges you to support HB 2661A-10.

