

From the desk of:  
Representative Tiffany Mitchell  
*Tiffany Mitchell*  
03/25/19

**United Seniors of Oregon and Oregon Council for Retired Citizens Support HB 2014**

United Seniors of Oregon and Oregon Council for Retired Citizens support HB 2014 because it will provide seniors and people with disabilities who have been abused or neglected access to a jury trial based on the facts of their case. Seniors and people with disabilities can fall victim to many predatory practices because as people age and/or face disability, they become less likely to be able to defend themselves from abuse and neglect. The effects are devastating. The damage can be physical and emotional. The ability to physically perform daily activities can be significantly impaired, and their sense of safety can be destroyed.

The trauma abuse has on families is enormous. House Bill 2014 will give seniors and people with disabilities a chance to have their case heard by a jury and let that panel of twelve Oregonians determine what fair compensation is for the pain that will change a family forever.

Abuse to seniors and people with disabilities occurs in many forms. They can be financially taken advantage of by predators, they can be mentally abused and neglected, and they can be physically abused and neglected while living out their golden years in a long-term care home.

Non-economic damages, for diminished quality of life, are often the only compensation a senior or person with disabilities can receive. For instance, they may have no lost wages to be compensated for, leaving them eligible for only minimal compensation for economic loss. This sends a message to our seniors that they have little to no value. It is crucial that we stand with our senior and disability populations by defending their right to a jury trial when they have fallen victim to abuse or neglect.

Please stand with seniors and people with disabilities by supporting HB 2014.

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