

HB 2524 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Doherty

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

Action Date: 03/25/19

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Helt, Keny-Guyer, Meek, Mitchell, Noble, Sanchez, Schouten, Williams, Zika

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Amie FenderSosa, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/11, 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires that a resident, upon admission to a long term care, residential care facility, or adult foster home, be provided information developed by the Long Term Care Ombudsman describing available services of the ombudsman. Defines "adult foster home" as licensed to provide residential care to older adults or people with physical disabilities. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for long term care residents to understand their rights and options
- Need for more volunteer ombudsmen to provide services promised to long term care residents; need for funding
- Description of amendment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

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BACKGROUND:

The Long Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) program is an independent state agency that serves long term care facility residents through complaint investigation, resolution and advocacy for improvement in resident care. The mission of Oregon's LTCO is to protect individual rights, enhance quality of life, improve care, and promote dignity of residents living in Oregon's licensed long term care facilities. Program staff work with a statewide network of over 180 volunteers who work in their own communities in a variety of roles to achieve this vision and mission. The services of the LTCO are free and available to residents, families, facility staff, and the general public.

The Residential Facilities Ombudsman (RFO) program is also part of an independent state agency. RFO provides advocacy services with and on behalf of over 8,200 individuals living in more than 2,300 licensed or certified homes for Intellectual and/or developmental disabilities as well as homes for mental health conditions statewide.

House Bill 2524-A requires long term care facilities, residential facilities, and adult foster homes to notify, and provide regular reminders to residents of available Ombudsman services.