

Chair Barker and Committee Members:

I am writing as a member of the American Association of University Women of Oregon (AAUW).

We support House Bill 4076 which creates a Task Force to study the problem of age discrimination in Oregon and to make recommendations for legislative action.

Age discrimination is real. I was "laid off" at age 63 because a younger person was paid less than me. My 30 years of experience should have landed me a well-paying job, but after looking for 6 months I accepted a part time job. I was asked for interviews, but was never offered a job because they assumed I would not be working many years. I was fortunate to have other sources of income, but others do not. Unfortunately, one's obligation to provide shelter, food and clothing for oneself and one's family members doesn't end at age 50, 55, 60, or 63.

Sadly, it is a problem that has been allowed to go on too long. I ask for your support of HB 4076.

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Susan Wahlke, Lincoln City