



## **SEIU Local 503 Supports SB 266A**

SEIU Local 503 represents over 35,000 people that care and support children, people with disabilities, seniors, and people with developmental disabilities. Some of our members care for people in their home while others work in facilities, including nursing homes, assisted living and memory care residential settings.

It is no secret that this past year has been devastating in long term care, specifically facility-based care. The cracks in the system have been exposed, and the time to act is now. There is no silver bullet to solving the problems plaguing the system. SB 266A offers a chance to clarify expectations at the agency level, so that facilities have clear standards to meet.

SB 266A will clarify the expectations and scope of residents needs, while at the same time enhancing the ODHS's ability to ensure safety and provide preventative guidance to providers. It codifies current CMS expectations, ensuring Oregon stays in compliance with Medicaid guidelines. SB 266A will clarify certain aspects of person-centered planning so that surveyors and investigators have a clear understanding of how those needs are, or are not, being met. It will also help ODHS determine whether compliance issues are related to staffing.

SB 266A is one of many steps we need to take to ensure safety and quality in long term care moving forward. We simply cannot repeat 2020.