

Greetings,

It's with great urgency I ask our elected officials to support SB714.

You MUST take this seriously.

My uncle has been a resident at Hawthorne Gardens in SE Portland since a night on the floor left him weakened and needing additional support.

I was given glowing reviews of Hawthorne Gardens. I loved the idea of a smaller facility closer to my house so I could visit more often.

My uncle requires compression wraps for his legs, he's diabetic. This is a straightforward series of actions. While he has a few caregivers who know how to put the wraps on, more often a brand new person (Agency, New Hire) comes into his room for this task. They often ignore his attempts to explain how it's done. He feels ignored, discounted and often spends his mornings frustrated about poor care.

On Saturday, one of the caregivers came in and told him she would be the ONLY caregiver that shift, two others had called off.

Two days ago someone removed his socks and now they are missing.

He's supposed to have snacks offered daily. He gets nothing from the staff since he's been there.

I've been offered a weekly check-in from the previous ED after our first care conference. No follow through

I asked for a nightly head's up on my uncle's care on Thursday morning, the nurse agreed. No follow through.

My uncle is now on hospice. If I didn't have the support of the hospice team I'd be losing my mind.

We must put staffing minimums in place for long term care facilities and memory care facilities.

A living wage and good training will go a long way to keeping the staff from changing all the time, which is very hard on our fragile loved ones.

Until you pass tougher laws, long term care will just continue to be treated as a cash cow by investors.

You and I may be needing this support one day. We must change the rules these companies play by.

Christine Borchert