

Please accept this letter in support of SB 714 from Certified Ombudsman Linda Setchfield:

Dear Committee,

I am a volunteer in the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program and as such I urge you to support SB 714, which would require a set number of direct care staff in memory care facilities.

As I make regular visits to an assigned memory care facility in Portland, I never fail to find filthy hands and fingernails, unwashed and uncombed hair, no shoes, one shoe, residents asleep at dining tables, oral care badly neglected over a lengthy period and toileting care neglected, as well as a myriad of other activities of daily living which are ignored or forgotten, and which I believe would be positively enhanced with the implementation of a required number of direct care staff present and attending the residents.

Committee, both you and I have the responsibility to speak for and to make important choices for these residents who are so deserving of our concern. Once again, please support SB 714.

Thank You and Sincerely,

**Linda Setchfield, Certified Ombudsman
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