



Oregon's Voice for Long Term Care & Senior Housing

April 7, 2021

House Committee on Human Services
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE.
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: HB 2105, -2 amendment

Chair Williams, Vice-Chairs Leif and Ruiz, and members of the committee,

The Oregon Health Care Association (OHCA) represents long term care providers across the state that provide services and supports to 64,000 Oregonians every day in either licensed care facilities or in their home. Oregon's long term care system is founded on key principles of a resident's independence, dignity, choice, and privacy.

We were pleased and grateful for the opportunity to work with the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) on the -2 amendment to HB 2105. The base bill was broader and applied to long term care provider settings and the residents, family, members and caregivers they serve. This presented challenges and complexities for how supported decision making agreements would interact with and be enforced for older adults, especially those who reside in licensed long term care communities, who already have a variety of legal tools available to them related to how they or their designated individual make choices about medical care and life decisions.

We appreciate the productive dialogue we have had with ODHS and are neutral on the -2 amendment. A narrowed scope of the bill is appropriate and think it will be helpful to ensure Oregon's youth understand that supported decision-making is an option available to them to promote self-determination and independence.

Thank you to ODHS for their on this measure and for the committee's consideration. We urge adoption of the -2 amendment.

Sincerely,

Libby Batlan
Senior Vice President of Government Relations
Oregon Health Care Association