



## VOTE "YES" ON HB 4098

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. With over 500,000 members in Oregon, AARP works to strengthen communities and advocate for what matters most to families, including strong consumer protection laws.

Insurance is a critical component of that security – whether it's homeowners, auto, or life insurance. **In 2023, AARP Oregon's Vital Voices Survey found that nearly 75% of Oregonians 45 and older own their own home. And with that comes the responsibility and, in most cases, the legal requirement of home-owner insurance.** Older Oregonians often spend decades responsibly paying premiums, trusting that when a crisis comes, be it a house fire or a car accident, their insurer will honor that commitment.

Yet, Oregon remains one of the few states where consumers cannot hold insurance companies accountable under the Unlawful Trade Practices Act (UTPA), our state's foundational consumer protection law.

**HB 4098 closes this gap. It brings the insurance industry under the same legal standards that apply to virtually every other business in Oregon.** This bill ensures that when an insurance company engages in deceptive, unfair, or bad faith practices, consumers -- especially older adults who are often more vulnerable to such abuses -- have meaningful avenues for redress.

**This legislation is not about punishing insurers – it's about accountability and fairness.** Oregonians pay premiums with the expectation that their insurance providers will act in good faith. When that trust is broken, they deserve the same protections afforded to consumers in every other industry.

From the desk of Representative Lisa Fragala

*Lisa M. Fragala*