



Support Senate Bill 1575

SB 1575 Provides Targeted Anti-Fraud Guardrails for Hospice Licensing

What This Bill Does

SB 1575 strengthens Oregon's front-end screening process for hospice licenses to prevent fraud and protect Medicare dollars — without burdening ethical providers.

The Problem

Oregon's current hospice licensing process is largely paperwork-based:

- 4-page application
- \$1,140 fee
- Basic ownership listing
- Self-attestation and policy submission
- License issued if minimum requirements are met

There is currently:

- No explicit prohibition on owners excluded from Medicare/Medicaid
- No clear requirement to disclose prior fraud findings in other states
- No strong authority to deny based on negative performance history
- No structured review of multi-state ownership records

Hospice is primarily funded by **federal Medicare dollars**. Weak front-end screening exposes taxpayers to fraud risk.

What SB 1575 Does

- ✓ Prohibits individuals excluded from Medicare or Medicaid from owning a hospice in Oregon
 - ✓ Requires disclosure of past fraud findings, license revocations, and regulatory sanctions
 - ✓ Allows OHA to deny licenses based on documented fraud history
 - ✓ Temporarily pauses new licenses while rules are strengthened
 - ✓ Maintains exceptions for underserved areas and ownership transitions
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What SB 1575 Does NOT Do

- ✗ Does not increase clinical regulations
 - ✗ Does not add new mandates on compliant providers
 - ✗ Does not eliminate private ownership
 - ✗ Does not create permanent moratoriums
 - ✗ Does not burden ethical Oregon-based businesses
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Why This Matters

Protects Taxpayer Dollars: Hospice fraud in other states has resulted in millions in improper Medicare payments. Oregon can prevent that before it happens.

Protects Small & Local Providers: Bad actors undercut responsible providers and damage the entire sector's reputation.

Protects Patients at Their Most Vulnerable: Hospice patients often cannot advocate for themselves.

The Bottom Line: If someone has been excluded from Medicare for fraud in another state, they should not be able to open a hospice in Oregon the next day. SB 1575 is targeted, reasonable, and focused on stopping fraud before it starts.

About OAHC

OAHC is an organization representing providers of skilled home health, hospice, in-home care throughout the state of Oregon. The association was founded and incorporated by a small group of home health agencies September 9, 1970 who realized there was a great need for industry solidarity. Our mission is to champion home care, home health and hospice by advocating for Oregonians and their families, empowering professional and family caregivers, and strengthening a sustainable, high-quality continuum of care at home.