

Submitter: Dawn Yates

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1505

I am writing in opposition to SB 1505 and any forthcoming or proposed amendments, which would establish a workforce standards board, and I respectfully urge you not to advance the bill.

1. This bill sets a concerning precedent

Even if long-term care providers are excluded, SB 1505 establishes a concerning precedent.

Once the Legislature approves the creation of a workforce standards board for one sector, it

becomes easier to expand the authority of that board or create additional boards in the future.

This approach is not conducive to businesses and organizations that are already struggling

to meet growing demand while operating in an increasingly complex regulatory environment with constrained funding. Workforce standards boards drive higher operating

costs. Increased costs will further limit access to care for seniors and people with disabilities.

2. This is not a proven or effective policy approach

Proponents suggest workforce standards boards bring stakeholders together, yet there is

no clear example of a healthcare workforce standards board that has successfully achieved

that goal. In 2/4/26 hearing testimony bill proponents used Nevada as an example – Nevada's Board is advisory only and it does not have the scope and authority presented

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before you. In practice, these boards often create additional cost, confusion and division

rather than collaboration.

3. This bill weakens transparency and accountability.

Oregonians deserve access to Oregon's established legislative due-process system.

They

deserve to understand how decisions are made and how to contact their elected

representatives when concerns arise.

This bill shifts workforce decisions away from Oregon's existing legislative and governmental processes, which are transparent, constitutionally grounded, and widely understood, into a new board structure without clear accountability to the public or the individuals these programs serve.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the committee not to advance SB 1505 or any forthcoming

amendments that would result in the creation of a workforce standards board.

Sincerely,

Dawn M Yates