

Submitter: Jamie Daugherty
On Behalf Of: Oregon Association for Home Care
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1575

Chair Sen Patterson and Members of the Committee,
For the record, my name is Jamie Daugherty, and I am the Executive Director of the Oregon Association for Home Care (OAHC). OAHC represents home health, hospice, and home care providers across Oregon who are committed to delivering high-quality, compassionate care to some of our state's most vulnerable residents. I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 1575.

Hospice care exists to provide comfort, dignity, and compassion at the end of life. Patients entering hospice are often at their most vulnerable—physically, emotionally, and cognitively—and are frequently unable to advocate for themselves. Oregon has long been a leader in protecting patient choice and quality of care, and SB 1575 is a necessary step to uphold those values.

In recent years, we have seen an increasing trend of large corporate and private equity interests acquiring community-based hospice providers. In too many cases nationwide, this has resulted in reduced staffing, selective patient enrollment, and a troubling focus on profit over patient needs. SB 1575 provides reasonable, targeted safeguards to prevent bad actors from exploiting patients at the end of life while preserving access to hospice services for communities across Oregon.

Specifically, this bill strengthens vetting requirements for hospice licenses, helps ensure hospice owners and administrators meet appropriate qualifications, and protects the integrity of Oregon's licensing process. These provisions are not burdensome to reputable providers; rather, they reinforce the standards that ethical, patient-centered hospices already meet and expect of their peers.

SB 1575 is about protecting patients, families, and the hospice benefit itself. It supports quality, transparency, and accountability while maintaining access to care—particularly in underserved areas.

On behalf of OAHC and our members across the state, I urge you to support SB 1575 and continue Oregon's commitment to compassionate, high-quality end-of-life care.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jamie Daugherty

Executive Director

Oregon Association for Home Care