



House Committee on Rules

Testimony in Support of SB 1575 A-Eng.

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AARP is pleased to support SB 1575 A-Eng. AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50+ to choose how they live as they age. AARP Oregon advocates on issues important to our more than 500,000 Oregon members with a focus on health security, financial resilience and livable communities.

SB 1575 A-Eng. advances key AARP principles of health security, transparency, accountability and patient dignity. This bill does that by increasing oversight of hospice ownership and preventing individuals or entities with a history of fraud, abuse, or poor-quality care from owning or operating hospice programs.

While hospice is a health care service it is far more than that. Families depend on hospice providers to honor end of life with dignity, compassion, and respect. Families and those using hospice enter believing they are choosing a compassionate, reputable organization. And they may have little to no time or ability to do due diligence.

Hospice care plays a vital role in ensuring dignity and comfort at the end of life, yet rapid changes in ownership, particularly the growth of profit-driven models, have raised serious concerns about quality, transparency, and patient protection. For those reasons, the state plays a critical role ensuring there is strong oversight so that the services families receive match the brochure.

SB 1575 A-Eng. addresses this by adding new licensing and screening safeguards. The temporary moratorium is balanced by exceptions for current Oregon providers.

AARP Oregon urges your support.