



PRESS RELEASE

OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

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House Votes to Protect Oregon's Seniors

House Bills 3359, 2661 and 5021 ensure the highest quality care

SALEM – Oregon House Democrats continued their work this legislative session to ensure Oregon's seniors are protected and receive the highest quality care when in long term care facilities.

“So much work went into all of this legislation,” says **Rep. Alissa Keny-Guyer (D-Portland)**, chair of the House Committee on Housing and Human Services, who was a co-chief sponsor on several of the bills. “As citizens of Oregon, we have a shared responsibility for ensuring those who are most vulnerable in our communities are well cared for. Together, we are making the right steps in ensuring that is happening.”

The bills, two of which were passed off the floor today, are:

- [House Bill 3359](#) substantially reforms the way Oregon measures the quality and outcomes of long-term care facilities. It enhances oversight and licensing, increases civil penalties for non-compliance, adds incentives for compliance, and ensures there are measures for accountability. The ultimate objective is to improve the quality of care for seniors and individuals with disabilities living in these facilities.
- [House Bill 2661](#) imposes requirements on organizations and companies that refer individuals to long term care providers. It makes long-term care referral provider a mandatory reporter of elder abuse, requires background checks and liability insurance, and prohibits self-dealing. The legislation also sets up a first in the nation registry.
- [House Bill 5021](#) allocates revenue to the Long Term Care Ombudsman that recruits and trains local volunteers to help it identify, investigate, and resolve non-abuse complaints made by, or on behalf of, residents in care facilities. The agency is also responsible for providing public guardian and conservator services to individuals who do not have relatives or friends willing or able to assume those duties.

“We owe it to our seniors to ensure that they receive the highest levels of care while in long term care facilities,” says **Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon (D-Woodburn)**. “All of this legislation will ensure our seniors are protected and have the support they need and deserve.”

Rep. Caddy McKeown (D-Coos Bay) led the charge on House Bill 3359 to reform how Oregon licenses, measures, and holds long-term care facilities accountable.

“This legislation will be vital to ensuring that every citizen of Oregon has the high standard of care they deserve when living in a long-term care facility,” says Rep. McKeown. “Too often, seniors and people with disabilities face unstable and unsafe situations. Accountability and transparency is something we should always be striving for.”

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