



OREGON HEALTH
CARE ASSOCIATION

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Oregon's Voice for Long Term Care & Senior Housing

May 11, 2007

Dear Senator Westlund:

On behalf of our more than 500 members, including skilled nursing facilities, assisted living and residential care facilities, independent senior housing, and licensed in-home care agencies, the Oregon Health Care Association is pleased to share our support for SB 329, the Oregon Health Fund proposal. SB 329 presents an excellent opportunity to develop comprehensive health care reform within the State of Oregon and also make progress toward universal access to health care for all our residents.

OHCA is particularly appreciative of acknowledgements by you and Senator Alan Bates of the fundamental differences between Oregon's acute care system and long term care system which led to the exclusion of funding for long term care supports and services from the provisions of SB 329.

In closing, OHCA is pleased to join AARP, as well as the many other senior and disability advocates supportive of SB 329, in applauding the accomplishments made during the 2007 legislative session toward the development of substantial health care reform in the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Carlson", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jim Carlson
Executive Director