



Oregon Association  
of Area Agencies on  
Aging & Disabilities

# HB 2908 - Looking into the future for Oregon Project Independence

Oregon Project Independence has successfully kept seniors who are at high risk of unnecessary or premature reliance on entitlement programs, such as Medicaid, in their own homes and communities. This program offers an alternative that not only keeps people independent but truly bends the cost curve for state budgets.

**5K**

In 2017-19 to date, over 5,000 individuals have been served through OPI.

**96%**

Over 96% of all OPI consumers are at an income level that would qualify for Medicaid services.

## The Financial Payoff for Services Through OPI is Immediate:

- The average cost per month for a consumer in Oregon Project independence is **\$244**.
- The average cost for a consumer to be served through home Medicaid services is over **\$800** in state General Funds up to over **\$3,000** for Medicaid services in a nursing facility.

## OPI offers a lower cost alternative for care but is limited by funding.

Currently there are over 1,000 on wait lists for services through OPI statewide.



### HB 2908 will look at what expanding this cost-effective program would mean for older adults and people with disabilities.

This is a comprehensive look at expanding the program, taking into account that different elements of program operation that are necessary to have a realistic perspective on how to increase services. This study will include:

- Training needs
- Additional case management staff needed
- Additional home care workers and home care agency resources to meet projected program needs
- Non-staff resources needed
- Funding to provide equitable services



This study, to look at 'fully funding' Oregon Project Independence, will also take into account projected case load numbers, projected timelines for possible expansion and increases in services.



The study is due to the Legislature by September 2020.

## Support HB 2908, a comprehensive look at the future of the Oregon Project Independence program.

For more information, please contact Nicole Palmateer at [nicole@o4ad.org](mailto:nicole@o4ad.org) or 503-428-6228.



Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging & Disabilities

T: 503-463-8692  
F: 503-463-8715  
E: [info@o4ad.org](mailto:info@o4ad.org)

PO Box 2777  
Salem, OR 97308  
[www.o4ad.org](http://www.o4ad.org)

\*October 2014.  
Other Data Sources: for In-home, CBC, and NF-services, DHS, February 2014, "2015 Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee, Aging and People with Disabilities" (PowerPoint). Federal poverty is for 2015. OPI fee collection number from DHS "OPI Allocation-Expenditures Analysis April 2015."