

Dear Representative Meek,

I am writing this letter of support for the family home model for caregiving. Our families experience has been wonderful. The decision to place our mother in the care of Haven Corner was not taken lightly. We visited countless numbers of care facilities, from Woodburn, Canby, Molalla to Oregon City most of them the "institutional model". For our Mom that just would not have worked. She grew up out in the country on a farm, and felt more comfortable in a home than in an institution type setting. And Dad just wouldn't agree to letting her move into one, when we walked into Haven Corner within 5 minutes we knew we found Mom's home. The atmosphere was such a warm family feel, people were out in the front room and dining room enjoying each other. It just felt right.

The care Haven Corner was able to provide her was so much more personal than the care she would have gotten in one of those other facilities. The staff at Haven Corner actually spend time living with these residents day in and day out. So they get to know them on a personal level along with all their habits and needs. When we would come to visit we just walked in like we were one of the family, because that is what we became. We were always invited to eat whatever meal was being served next and the residents all sit at the kitchen table together and eat and visit. It is a true family.

With such close proximity and tender care, I would think it would be of great value to allow them a few more residents. It would be a little bit more income that they could use to possibly employ more staff members so the people working could have more time off with their own families, relaxing so they wouldn't be so likely to get tired out or burn out or the additional income could be used to employ another person to help during heavy care times.

Watching the staff and how they care for the residents I don't think it would be any more of a burden to them, the caregivers would just engulf them as more family. And if they were allowed a few more residents then the possibility would have existed that Dad could have moved in with mom and we could have kept them together until the end of Mom's life. They both would have so enjoyed that.

So in closing as you make your decision on these types of care facilities, please think about the care you would like or the care you would want your loved ones

to have. And please do not add anymore burdens on to their already heavy load of caring and loving our loved ones.

Sincerely appreciate your time and thoughtfulness as you make tough decision for our loved ones (and possibly yours)

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