

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	7 - 2 - 1
Yeas:	Garrett, Hicks, Olson, Schaufler, Whisnant, Barker, Krieger
Nays:	Nolan, Tomei
Exc.:	Wand
Prepared By:	Aaron Knott, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	5/23, 5/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates the crime of assisting another person to commit suicide, punishable as a Class B felony.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Growth of suicide kit sales over the internet, usually but not always a helium hood apparatus capable of quickly displacing oxygen within the brain and causing death
- Distinction between the death of the terminally ill via the Oregon Death With Dignity Act and the compulsive suicides of otherwise healthy teenagers
- Need to exclude documentation otherwise protected by the First Amendment from statutory coverage

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Specifies that the object transferred must be capable of causing death; modifies applicable mental state.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 376 B creates the new crime of assisting another person to commit suicide. A person commits the crime of assisting another person to commit suicide if the person intentionally sells or transfers any substance or object capable of causing death to another person for the purpose of assisting the other person's usage of the substance or object to commit suicide. This does not apply to individuals acting pursuant to an advance directive or health care decision per ORS 127.505 through 127.660, a person withholding or withdrawing life-sustaining procedures or artificially administered hydration or nutrition per ORS 127.505 through 127.660 (pertaining to the requirements imposed on health care organizations relating to the rights of individuals to make health care decisions), or ORS 127.800 through 127.897 (The Oregon Death With Dignity Act).