



Representative Michael Dembrow

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H-487

Bill Brief: HB 2671-3

The Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator

What is guardianship and conservatorship?

Guardianship and conservatorship are court ordered protections which are ordered for those not capable of protecting themselves. When a court finds that a person is incapable of making decisions about his or her own basic health, safety, and financial needs such that serious physical injury or illness is likely to occur, a guardianship or conservatorship may be ordered. The basis for incapacity may stem from severe mental health conditions, developmental disabilities, and age-related conditions.

What does 2671-3 do?

The Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator will provide needs-based guardian and conservator services for Oregonians who:

- Do not have a friend or relative that is willing or able to assume the duties of guardianship or conservatorship **and**,
- Those who are assessed to lack the financial resources necessary to obtain a private guardian or conservator.

The Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator will be appointed by the Governor, will work from within the office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman, and will be advised and monitored by an advisory committee.

Why is why is HB 2671 needed?

At-risk adults, who are unable to care for themselves are vulnerable to continued abuse or neglect leading to repeated hospitalizations, stroke, heart attack, malnutrition, commitment to a psychiatric unit, or premature death. A statewide “Public Guardian” is a resource that has been developed in many states to address this problem.