

May 1, 2013

Representative Chris Garrett, Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Rules

Dear Chair and members of the House Committee on Rule,

For the record, my name is Tiffany Hebb, resident of House District 30. I first want to thank you for taking the time to hear my story: A story that ends with tragic but ignites a conversation on the safety on washing machines. On March 23rd 2012 at approximately 10 AM, my life was changed by the tragic death of my two year old son, Ollie. We were happily doing laundry together as we always did. We both were enjoying each other's company but for some reason he still wanted to help me with the laundry. When I went into the other room he went back in and climbed up on top of my washing machine. He fell in and drowned. I had never thought of this to be a danger in my own home, a seemingly innocuous household appliance.

Since that day I have been trying to warn other parents about this danger. I have talked to numerous age groups of people about this accident and I have not found a person yet who says they ever thought of a washing machine to be a risk to the lives of our young ones. Everyone is aware of the water in a toilet, bucket, swimming pool, and tub, but not a washing machine so we need to bring attention to the washing machine. My son is not the only child who has died by falling into a washing machine, but one would be too many. Also there have been many severe injuries.

Representative Gallegos and his team have been helping me write a bill for a warning label to be placed on all washing machines in the state of Oregon. If I could help save even one child then this bill would be worth it. Members of the committee on House Rules, I plead that you look into you hearts today or imagine losing a child. I thank you for time and ask a work session to be scheduled to help make this bill better.

Thank you,

/s/ Tiffany Hebb

Tiffany Hebb