

Testimony Regarding **HB 3345**

House Health Care Committee

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Good afternoon members of the House Health Care Committee. For the record my name is April Salsbury and I am the Chief Executive Officer for MedCure, Incorporated. Our company was established in 2005 by David Urbina and Janis Locenieks. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today about our company and the valuable services we provide.

MedCure is a non-transplant, anatomical tissue bank devoted to compassionate and ethical services that connect the gift of whole body donors to medical researchers and educators worldwide. We accept donations from 46 states as the tertiary option after the possibility of organ transplant and tissue transplant have been explored. Our 74 highly educated and trained employees serve our locations in Cumberland, RI; Tampa, FL; Orlando, FL; Henderson, NV; and, our newly constructed corporate headquarters in Portland, OR. In 2012, MedCure became the first U.S. based non-transplant anatomical tissue bank to establish international roots in order to serve the growing research and education needs abroad. Our location in The Netherlands services nearly 20% of our more than 400 medical education and research clients worldwide.

We also provide state-of-the-art surgical training laboratories in our Nevada, Rhode Island, and Oregon locations for physicians to learn advanced surgical procedures through lecture and hands-on practice. Our surgical training services contribute to advanced physician training, development of medical devices, study of disease pathology, emergency medical training, improving medications and more effective, less invasive treatments for patients. For example, last year a patient received one of the first Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement procedures in Las Vegas, Nevada. This procedure was the only option for this patient because of his age, previous heart surgery and history of strokes. Traditionally, open heart surgery, which requires the opening of the rib cage to expose the heart muscle was used to correct aortic stenosis; an option which was too invasive for this patient. Until this procedure was developed in MedCure's surgical training facilities, patients with this condition would have been deemed "inoperable". MedCure is honored to be part of new medical innovations like this, every day.

MedCure recognizes the need for standards of practice within the non-transplant anatomical donation industry and has been a leader in this effort. In addition to participating on the American Medical Education and Research Association (AMERA) board, MedCure institutes AMERA standards as well as the American Association of Tissue Banks into our practices. Our organization is one of very few non-transplant tissue banks licensed in the state of New York and allowed to perform services in the United Kingdom under the Human Tissue Authority. Our practices are recognized throughout the industry and have earned the respect of prestigious

medical schools such as the University of Cambridge, Harvard Medical School, Oregon Health and Science University, and the University of Southern Florida which has also partnered with MedCure on a \$38 million dollar Center for Advanced Medical Learning and Simulation project in Tampa, Florida. MedCure standards are also recognized by respectable entities such as the U.S. Military, CDC, local fire departments and emergency responders.

To further promote these standards, MedCure demands experience, expertise, and excellence of its workforce. 75% of the MedCure team possesses a minimum of a bachelor's degree and has completed a rigorous 6 month training protocol. MedCure also participates with local medical schools to provide internship opportunities for pre-med, biology, and other medical science trade majors. Many of MedCure's laboratory personnel go on to fulfill their medical school education after one to two years of service and training through our organization.

We do not object to regulations that make sense and HB 3345 -6 attempts to provide reasonable regulation of our industry. There are a few issues we would like to bring to your attention in the -6 and our legislative representative Hasina Squires will provide an outline of those issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today I would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.

MedCure