

My name is April Venes. I teach Respiratory Therapy at the Oregon Institute of Technology.

About 12 million Americans have obstructive sleep apnea. [1]

Sleep apnea is a deadly disease because people with this disorder abruptly stop breathing when they aren't awake and are unable to help themselves. People with moderate or severe sleep apnea, the people who are most likely to undergo sleep studies, are 6 times more likely to die than people without the disease. [2]

They are also more likely to die suddenly. [3] Sudden death from sleep apnea is preventable, if professional Respiratory Therapists respond immediately to rescue the dying patient.

House Bill 2305 gives licenses for sleep technology to minimally trained, otherwise inexperienced members of the public. House Bill 2305 exposes Oregonians to too much risk.

Let's be perfectly clear, passing this bill would be a deadly mistake.

Thank you for your attention.

#### References

[1] Punjabi, N.M., The Epidemiology of Obstructive Sleep Apnea. Proc Am. Thoracic Soc. 2008 Feb 15; 5 (2): 136-143

[2] Marshall, N.S., et al. Sleep apnea as an independent risk factor for all-cause mortality. SLEEP 2008; 31(8); 1079-1085

[3] Gami, A., et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2013;62(7):610-616. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2013.04.080