

900 COURT ST NE S101 SALEM, OREGON 97301-4065 (503) 986-1243 FAX: (503) 373-1043 www.oregonlegislature.gov/lc

STATE OF OREGON LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL COMMITTEE

February 6, 2015

Representative Mike McLane 900 Court Street NE H395 Salem OR 97301

Re: House Bill 2300 Definitions

Dear Representative McLane:

You asked this office the following two questions: first, whether the definition of "terminal disease" in section 1 (7) of House Bill 2300 would change the meaning of "terminal disease" for purposes of ORS 127.800 to 127.890 (The Oregon Death With Dignity Act); and second, whether the definition of "capable" in section 1 (2) of House Bill 2300 would change the meaning of "capable" for purposes of ORS 127.800 to 127.890. The answer to both your questions is no.

The definitions set forth in section 1, House Bill 2300 apply only to the provisions of House Bill 2300. Section 1 of the bill specifies that the definitions are to be "used" only for purposes of "sections 1 to 11 of this 2015 Act." There is no reference to any provision of ORS 127.800 to 127.890 or to any other existing statutory law. If House Bill 2300 were to become law, the definitions set forth in ORS 127.800 would continue to apply to the provisions of ORS 127.890.

Feel free to contact our office if you have any other questions about House Bill 2300.

The opinions written by the Legislative Counsel and the staff of the Legislative Counsel's office are prepared solely for the purpose of assisting members of the Legislative Assembly in the development and consideration of legislative matters. In performing their duties, the Legislative Counsel and the members of the staff of the Legislative Counsel's office have no authority to provide legal advice to any other person, group or entity. For this reason, this opinion should not be considered or used as legal advice by any person other than legislators in the conduct of legislative business. Public bodies and their officers and employees should seek and rely upon the advice and opinion of the Attorney General, district attorney, county counsel, city attorney or other retained counsel. Constituents and other private persons and entities should seek and rely upon the advice and opinion of private counsel.

Very truly yours,

DEXTER A. JOHNSON Legislative Counsel

By Mark B. Mayer Deputy Legislative Counsel