

Testimony from Adrienne J. Kramberg on HB 2660  
33754 S.E. Maple  
Scappoose, OR 97056

For the past four years I have been on medication for Chronic Depression Disorder and Acute Social Anxiety Disorder. I have been under the care of Holly Balsbaugh, LPN at OHSU, Scappoose Oregon Clinic. I take Effexor every day and Lorazepam as needed for anxiety attacks.

On the evening of October 20, 2014 I had an acute anxiety attack. These are rare and I have only used the Lorazepam twice before in the previous few years. The dosing information states to take one half, to one tablet every four hours as needed for symptoms. I took one tablet at about 6pm. Having no relief after 3 hours, I took another tablet and fell asleep on my couch.

The next thing I was aware of, I was driving in St Helens, seven miles from my home. I was wearing a tee shirt, a pair of running shorts and socks. I had no purse on me, only my wallet. I thought I needed to go pick up my middle daughter and her husband at a local bar. I don't know where this thought came from. I hadn't spoken with my daughter all day. However, I did go to the tavern, asked if she was there, was told no, and I left.

Apparently, I was walking around outside my car for some time because a neighbor saw me, called the police and indicated that I didn't seem to know where I was. I got into my car and (according to police) was driving 10 MPH toward my father's house three blocks away.

I was taken to the police department where I was administered a BAC breathalyzer, which read 0.00. **I had no alcohol in my system.** I again stated what I had taken and that I wasn't aware of much regarding how or why I got where I was at the time. **I asked if I was going to go to the hospital, they said no I was being booked into custody and charged with a DUII.** My mother posted bail and I left a few hours later.

On January 15, 2015 I appeared in court for the first time. I was assigned a court appointed attorney and told to return in thirty days. After consulting with my attorney on the phone for 15 minutes, it was made clear to me that proving state of mind and/or giving an explanation as to how I came to be in this position would be an exercise in futility. It was recommended that I ask to enter the diversion program, as I'd never been in trouble before.

I returned to court and was able to explain to the judge what had happened. I provided her with documentation from my doctor and a print out from Walmart pharmacy in order to show her that I was taking prescription medication legally and as intended. **She felt sorry for me and said that unfortunately there were certain stipulations that had to be imposed regardless of the reason I stood before her.**

I was ordered to pay court fees totaling \$550.00, told to attend a Victim's Impact Panel, to submit to a drug and alcohol assessment and to have a breathalyzer installed into my car by February 13, 2015. When I asked about the device I was told it was to detect blood alcohol content (BAC). I told her I wasn't drinking, that it was prescription medication I'd had an adverse reaction to. **She said that it was out of her hands and that she was sorry to say that the statutes gave her no option.**

This leads me here today, by proxy, as I am unable to attend due to work commitments. I would like to ask that HB 2660 be passed and entered into law. To ask people with no alcohol infraction to have to pay for, be monitored once a month and be subject to the imposition of operating a BAC device serves no useful purpose. **If a person is found to have violated the law by drinking and driving, I think that this device is a great tool that should be used.** However for those people whose infraction was not alcohol related it does no good for them, or the state, to have to utilize it.

Having to carry, plug in, wait for three minutes warm up time and periodic rolling tests (every 25 minutes while driving) in order to see if I've been drinking serves no useful purpose, and in fact, feels as though I am being punished every day for a crime that I did not commit. It causes me to experience such anxiety that I have begun walking to work just to avoid using my car. I feel humiliated in front of my children and grandchildren, and I am terrified that someone I know will see me, as this is a small town.

This bill will not affect my circumstances; however I am concerned about others who may continue to be affected by current law. **Please vote in favor of HB 2660, so that each situation can be assessed on its own merits by the court, the individual given the best possible treatment options and the use of the auto breathalyzer be used only in alcohol involved driving offenses.** To do otherwise ensnares many people unnecessarily in a net when a hook would suffice to catch the intended offenders.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in favor of this bill.