



Abigail Alliance for Better Access to Developmental Drugs

www.abigail-alliance.org

501 (C3) non-profit incorporated in Virginia

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Date: February 19, 2015

To: Rep. Knute Buehler, Oregon State Legislature

From: Frank Burroughs, President, Abigail Alliance for Better Access to Developmental Drugs

Re: Oregon HB 2300, Relating to treatments for patients with terminal diseases.

I support Oregon's "Right to Try" legislation that would enable patients with terminal diseases to more rapidly access investigational drugs. Other states have enacted similar measures and more are considering them.

- Right to Try is putting enormous pressure on the FDA to start moving and, for that reason alone, it is critically important to bring about much needed change to help so many more patients than the current system.
- Upon a majority of States adopting Right to Try laws, there will no longer be any question of public opinion on this issue. The FDA and Congress will then start seriously reforming federal regulations to bring them into much closer alignment with the intent of Right to Try laws.
- By passing Right to Try laws first, States will have cleared the path at the State level for a fully functioning and reformed system, in which new treatments that have been proven to be adequately safe will reach patients who need them in a timeframe meaningful to them.
- States need to continue to pass Right to Try laws because they are an important part of the engine driving change at the federal level, and because the citizens of each State need their State governments to take their side against a federal system that has, by broad bipartisan and public agreement, become a powerful barrier to the discovery, development and delivery of medical progress to those who need it. States need to step up on this one to correct the path of the federal government, and to try give their citizens a way to mitigate the life and death damages the federal failures have imposed on them. It clearly isn't the first time they have had to do this,

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