



February 28, 2017

TO: House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Anna Keenan-Mudrick and Bernie Wilson, Co-Chairs, IDD Coalition

RE: Support for HB 2630

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Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Coalition (IDD Coalition) is a group of approximately 30 organizations across Oregon that promote quality services, equality and community integration for Oregonians with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families.

The IDD Coalition believes that Oregon is strongest when all people exercise self-determination, choice and control in their lives. We applaud that Oregon guardianship laws recognize that guardianship should maximize the protected person's independence; however, we believe the laws should do more to respect the voice of a protected person.

We support HB 2630 because it does several things to strengthen and improve the law, namely:

- It allows the protected person to object to a petition or motion orally in person or by other means that are intended to ensure they will have their objections conveyed in court.
- It requires that the petition for guardianship contain information on the alternatives to the appointment of a fiduciary that have been considered and why the alternatives are inadequate under the circumstances.
- It requires the guardian to provide 15 days' prior written notice to the protected person and persons entitled to receive notice under ORS 125.060 before changing the place of abode of a protected person.

We urge you to further strengthen Oregon's guardianship laws and support the voice and self-determination of a protected person under Oregon law by passing HB 2630.