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MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 17, 2017
TO: House Committee on Health Care
FROM: Ava Bartley, FACT Oregon
RE: HB 2839

Chair Greenlick and Members of the House Committee on Health Care:

My name is Ava Bartley, and I am the Advocacy and Engagement Director for FACT Oregon. I am writing to provide testimony in support for **HB 2839**, as amended by the "-1" amendments to the bill, which prohibit consideration of any disability of a potential recipient of an anatomical gift.

FACT Oregon's mission is to empower Oregon families experiencing disability in pursuit of whole lives in their community. We do this with focused work in three interconnected areas: expanding awareness, growing community, and equipping families. The outcome is families with high expectations for their child and a vision for the future where all communities are accessible, welcoming, and embrace that disability is natural.

Because we believe disability is a natural part of the human condition, we also believe that how we experience disability should not be a disqualifier of our ability to have a whole life, which would include the right to be considered for organ transplantation on the same footing as anyone else, free from discrimination based upon any preconceived notions or judgments about worth or ability to benefit.

We support the idea and intent behind **HB 2839** and the **-1 amendments** to that bill, the combination of which will ensure individuals experiencing disability have the same rights as everyone else in their pursuit of whole lives in their communities.

Ava Bartley
Advocacy and Engagement Director
FACT Oregon

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expanding awareness, growing community, and equipping families.