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February 1, 2018

Representative Mitch Greenlick
Chairman, House Committee on Health Care

RE: HB4135

Dear Chairman Greenlick,

We are delighted to see you are a cosponsor of this much needed bill to update Oregon's Advance Directive legislation. We have a simple recommendation regarding this bill: eliminate the provision of a "temporary form." It is an unnecessary and unhelpful complication. What is needed is to establish an "Advance Directive Adoption Committee," prescribe the make-up of the Committee, provide some guiding principles, and set a deadline for completing the work. The bill, in its present form accomplishes all of those latter objectives. Let the legislatively appointed Committee get about its work with a clean slate.

The proposed "temporary form" is not less complicated nor is it less confusing than the current form. Efforts to use the "temporary form" will generate significant confusion among those who wish to complete an Advance Directive, among providers who are called upon to carry it out as well as those who assist people during the process of completing a form. The more prudent strategy is to continue using the current form until the Committee creates the replacement and the Legislature authorizes it.

It will greatly simplify both the bill itself and the lives of citizens wishing to complete an Advance Directive if you limit the scope of the bill to the creation of the "Advance Directive Adoption Committee." A revised form is highly desirable. A capable committee should be created, and their work should get underway as quickly as possible with as little confusion as possible.

Sincerely,

Michael Garland

Michael Garland, D.Sc.Rel
Co-founder and Board Member

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