

February 6, 2018

House Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Greenlick & Members of the Committee,

I am writing today to ask that you vote NO on HB 4135. I am concerned that there are significant unintended consequences that hurt many Oregonians.

A few years ago, my grandmother was diagnosed with dementia. This was a wake-up call for our family and still presents its difficulties even today. She is blessed to have a family that loves her, and my grandfather takes care of her along with the fine staff at the memory care home where she lives full time.

But not everyone with dementia has a caring family. HB 4135 creates the opportunity for surrogates to make an end of life decision for people just like my grandmother without the consent of the patient.

Nobody chooses dementia. The best we can do as a society is care for those who have it and work as hard as we can to find ways to cure it or keep it at bay.

Please oppose HB 4135.

Reagan Knopp
Medford, OR