

Merriam-Webster defines "inalienable" as "incapable of being alienated, surrendered, or transferred." This is the descriptor of our human rights as declared in our Declaration of Independence. HB 4135 is the arrogant alienation of that which cannot be alienated, it is the surreptitious surrendering of that which cannot be surrendered, and it is the treacherous transfer of that which cannot be transferred. Our rights are inalienable. This is human rights 101! This is kindergarten level morality up for discussion, but lest there be any confusion, allow me to spell it out. Denying people food and water is wrong; it is inhumane. Dementia may strip a person of their mental faculties but it does not strip them of their person-hood or their rights. Technicalities and caveats bear no weight against the inestimable value of a person and their rights, and the day we devalue and discard the rights of others is the day we devalue our own rights for someone else to discard later.

HB 4135 is an appalling travesty of a bill and will be a stain upon the history and conscience of the great state of Oregon, should it pass. Please oppose this bill and vote NO.

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