

Hello,

My name is Nate Harmon and I live and work in Portland, OR.

I ask that Legislative Concept 52 be passed into law this Special Session so that **Oregonians experiencing disability can access healthcare, use support from people they trust while they are hospitalized and have support when making end of life decisions.**

I work for a Support Services Brokerage that provides Case Management to adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/D). I believe that it is extremely important that Oregonians experiencing ID/D have access to support from a trusted caregiver when hospitalized if they desire this support. Many individuals experiencing ID/D need additional supports to communicate receptively and expressively in an effective manner. They often need support from a trusted care provider to fully understand their options. These supports can assist people with ID/D to better self-direct their medical care, to arrive at the decisions that meet their desires and best work for them, and to communicate these effectively to medical staff. These supports are essential to ensuring that individuals with ID/D are fully included in their healthcare decisions and end of life planning, things that should be basic human rights for all.

I'd like to thank the committee for considering this important issue and ask that you pass Legislative Concept 52. Thank you!

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