

**From:** [Kristine Merritt](#)  
**To:** [J1SS Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Concept 52  
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Hi,

When supporting a person to enter a hospital, it is a very stressful and difficult time. The people we support need access to their care providers so they have a trusted person that knows how best to communicate with them while making important decisions. Without this access, people with disabilities are isolated, uninformed and at risk.

Please support Concept 52 - 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.

- Mandates hospitals allow support people to patients as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, consistent with the order recently released by US Health and Human Services and current Oregon Health Authority guidelines.
- Clarifies that Crisis Care Guidance may not include provisions that consider the presence of a disability as a determinant factor in the decision of who gets care and who does not.
- Ensures that people are not pressured to make end of life decisions on the basis of their disability or as a condition of receiving care; and that they can have support from people they choose for end of life care discussions.

Thank you,

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Expand the horizons and enhance the quality of life of those we support.

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