

This Senate Bill is unnecessary. Waiting periods serve a very valuable service. There needs to be time for family and friends to discuss, contemplate, interact, and love the one that is dying. I know rights are important but there are safeguards with current waiting period. People often change their minds even on the most important decisions of life and death. Physicians are also not able to predict exactly when someone may die, and can miscalculate by weeks and months. This waiting period is needed. Also, it is always possible to keep someone comfortable during those 15 days with current knowledge of medical care. Please do not approve this Bill.

I am speaking for myself as a long practicing physician in Oregon and also as the Oregon State Director of American Academy of Medical Ethics.

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