

DRO

Disability
Rights
Oregon

From the Desk
of
Rep. Evans

Disability Rights Oregon Urges your Support of HB 2014



TO: Oregon House of Representatives
FR: Jake Cornett, Executive Director
RE: Support for HB 2014

Disability Rights Oregon strongly urges your support of House Bill 2014. When a person become disabled due to the negligence or wrongdoing of others, the after-affects may have a devastating, life-altering impact on that person and their loved one's quality of life.

People with disabilities can face daily life challenges that require accommodations in their home and workplace, and transportation to school, work or just to run errands. People may require additional homecare to get up and moving in the morning. Getting out of bed, taking a shower, brushing one's teeth, putting on clothes, or making breakfast may require help. Basic, necessary tasks that could once be done without assistance may now require new routines, assistive devices and extra time.

The individual's life and the lives of their family members can be forever changed. Will the person be able to physically care for their infant child? Join the family for a hike or walk on the beach? Will they be able to deal with an emergency in the middle of the night? One thing is for certain: disability is highly individualized. Putting an arbitrary, one-size-fits-all limit on a person's needs ignores the true impact of these changes to that Oregonian and their family?

People with disabilities can and do achieve full and satisfying lives, though many face barriers. Unemployment for those with disabilities is persistently twice that of other workers and studies show a pay disparity of 37% for workers with vs. without disabilities. And for these citizens, who can feel invisible and undervalued, the cap is yet another barrier to their constitutional right to seek justice and hold wrongdoers accountable.

For all of these reasons, DRO urges you to stand with people with disabilities by voting "Yes" on HB 2014



3/25/19