

From: [Patricia klee](#)
To: [JISS Exhibits](#)
Subject: Disability Rights.. SB 1606
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To Whom it may concern...

It is heart wrenching to hear that folks with disabilities have been denied having a relative or support person with them during hospitalization. As a parent of a disabled son who had limited communication skills, I find that frightening and extremely sad. My son passed away suddenly years ago before the pandemic, I was there constantly by his side in the ER, And later in Intensive care.

As his guardian, I had to make many fast decisions, including whether to intubate or not. At the end of life, I also had to make the decision whether to donate his organs and that was a very long interview with DonatLife NW. As a former Healthcare worker, I also cannot imagine how difficult it would be to take care of a disabled person effectively and safely without a caregiver there by his side to help with communication. If my son had had to be hospitalized during this time, and I was denied access to him and he passed away, I would be very very sad for the rest of my life with the regret. I sincerely hope that this issue can be resolved in the best interest of the disabled.

Thank You for your Time

Sincerely

Patricia Klee, Hillsboro Oregon