

Dear members of the Oregon government,

I understand that tomorrow there will be a hearing and possible work session scheduled as related to SB 1606 that ensures people with disabilities have access to healthcare.

I am the father of an adult daughter who has a developmental disability, Even though my daughter is 30, she has the cognitive functioning of a 5-year-old. Imagine a 5-year old, in a hospital bed, by themselves afraid and alone without the support of someone they know and trust. Would you allow your 5-year old son, daughter, or grandchild to face being alone while fighting for their life? No, that would be cruel. Therefore, I implore you to please pass this Special Session.

It's important for all Oregonians experiencing disability can access healthcare with support from people they trust while they are hospitalized and have support when making an end of life decisions.

This is an emergency and is directly related to the COVID-19 crisis. These changes cannot wait until next year because people with disabilities are experiencing these barriers to health care today.

Additionally, I want you to know, that I will be following your decision closely because it affects the quality of care that my daughter deserves.

As a homeowner and registered voter who lives in Portland, Oregon, I request that this email be posted as a written testimony on the record.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Chapman, M.A.
Portland, Oregon