

We ask that SB 1606 pass this Special Session so that Oregonians experiencing disability can access healthcare with support from people they trust while they are hospitalized and have support when making 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. Our lives MATTER.

SB 1606 ensures people with disabilities have access to healthcare by:

- Mandating 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.
- Clarifying 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.
- Ensuring that people can have support from people they choose if they are discussing lifesaving or end of life care.

Marilyn & Stan Rowland, Bend Oregon Parents & Guardians of son Jonathan Goddard with IDD