

# D R A F T

## SUMMARY

Modifies execution formalities for appointment of person to make decisions concerning disposition of remains and for declaration for mental health treatment.

### A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to execution formalities; creating new provisions; amending ORS  
3 97.130, 127.700, 127.707 and 127.736; and repealing ORS 127.730.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 97.130 is amended to read:

6 97.130. (1) Any individual of sound mind who is 18 years of age or older,  
7 by completion of a written signed instrument or by preparing or prearrang-  
8 ing with any funeral service practitioner licensed under ORS chapter 692,  
9 may direct any lawful manner of disposition of the individual's remains.  
10 Except as provided under subsection (7) of this section, disposition directions  
11 or disposition prearrangements that are prepaid or that are filed with a fu-  
12 neral service practitioner licensed under ORS chapter 692 are not subject to  
13 cancellation or substantial revision.

14 (2) A person within the first applicable listed class among the following  
15 listed classes that is available at the time of death, in the absence of actual  
16 notice of a contrary direction by the decedent as described under subsection  
17 (1) of this section or actual notice of opposition by completion of a written  
18 instrument by a member of the same class or a member of a prior class, may  
19 direct any lawful manner of disposition of a decedent's remains by com-  
20 pletion of a written instrument:

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

- 1 (a) The spouse of the decedent.
- 2 (b) A son or daughter of the decedent 18 years of age or older.
- 3 (c) Either parent of the decedent.
- 4 (d) A brother or sister of the decedent 18 years of age or older.
- 5 (e) A guardian of the decedent at the time of death.
- 6 (f) A person in the next degree of kindred to the decedent.
- 7 (g) The personal representative of the estate of the decedent.
- 8 (h) The person nominated as the personal representative of the decedent  
9 in the decedent's last will.
- 10 (i) A public health officer.
- 11 (3)(a) The decedent or any person authorized in subsection (2) of this  
12 section to direct the manner of disposition of the decedent's remains may  
13 delegate such authority to any person 18 years of age or older.
- 14 (b) Delegation of the authority to direct the manner of disposition of re-  
15 mains must be made by completion of:
- 16 (A) The written instrument described in subsection (8) of this section; or
- 17 (B) The form described in subsection (4) of this section.
- 18 (c) The person to whom the authority is delegated has the same authority  
19 under subsection (2) of this section as the person delegating the authority.
- 20 (4)(a) A Record of Emergency Data, DD Form 93, or a successor form re-  
21 cognized by the Armed Forces of the United States, as that term is defined  
22 in ORS 366.931, completed by a member of the Armed Forces of the United  
23 States serves as a valid written instrument for purposes of subsection (3) of  
24 this section.
- 25 (b) In accordance with United States Department of Defense Instruction  
26 1300.18, a member of the Armed Forces of the United States shall complete  
27 the form described in this subsection and shall verify the accuracy of the  
28 form at least annually.
- 29 (c) The form described in this subsection, regardless of the date on which  
30 the form was signed, supersedes any other written instrument that directs  
31 the disposition of the decedent's remains.

1 (5) Except as provided in subsection (4)(c) of this section, if a decedent  
2 or the decedent's designee issues more than one authorization or direction  
3 for the disposal of the decedent's remains, only the most recent authorization  
4 or direction is binding.

5 (6) A donation of anatomical gifts under ORS 97.951 to 97.982 takes pri-  
6 ority over directions for the disposition of a decedent's remains under this  
7 section only if the person making the donation is of a priority under sub-  
8 section (1) or (2) of this section the same as or higher than the priority of  
9 the person directing the disposition of the remains.

10 (7) If the decedent directs a disposition under subsection (1) of this sec-  
11 tion and those financially responsible for the disposition are without suffi-  
12 cient funds to pay for such disposition or the estate of the decedent has  
13 insufficient funds to pay for the disposition, or if the direction is unlawful,  
14 the direction is void and disposition shall be in accordance with the direc-  
15 tion provided by the person given priority in subsection (2) of this section  
16 and who agrees to be financially responsible.

17 (8) The signature of the individual delegating the authority to direct the  
18 manner of disposition is required for the completion of the written instru-  
19 ment required in subsection (3)(b)(A) of this section. The following form or  
20 a form substantially similar shall be used by all individuals:

21 \_\_\_\_\_

22 APPOINTMENT OF PERSON  
23 TO MAKE DECISIONS  
24 CONCERNING DISPOSITION  
25 OF REMAINS

26

27 I, \_\_\_\_\_, appoint \_\_\_\_\_, whose ad-  
28 dress is \_\_\_\_\_ and whose telephone number is (\_\_\_\_)  
29 \_\_\_\_\_, as the person to make all decisions regarding the disposition  
30 of my remains upon my death for my burial, cremation or alternative dispo-  
31 sition. In the event \_\_\_\_\_ is unable to act, I appoint

1 \_\_\_\_\_, whose address is \_\_\_\_\_ and whose  
2 telephone number is (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_, as my alternate person to make all  
3 decisions regarding the disposition of my remains upon my death for my  
4 burial, cremation or alternative disposition.

5 It is my intent that this Appointment of Person to Make Decisions Con-  
6 cerning Disposition of Remains act as and be accepted as the written au-  
7 thorization presently required by ORS 97.130 (or its corresponding future  
8 provisions) or any other provision of Oregon Law, authorizing me to name  
9 a person to have authority to dispose of my remains.

10

11 DATED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

12

\_\_\_\_\_

13

(Signature)

14

15

**NOTARY OR WITNESSES**

16

17

**(Have this document notarized by a notary public OR have 2**

18

**competent adult witnesses complete the Declaration of Witnesses.)**

19

20

**NOTARIAL CERTIFICATE:**

21

22

**State of \_\_\_\_\_**

23

**County of \_\_\_\_\_**

24

**Signed or attested before me on \_\_\_\_\_,**

25

**2\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_.**

26

\_\_\_\_\_

27

**Notary Public - State of Oregon**

28

29

**OR**

30

31

**DECLARATION OF WITNESSES**

1 We declare that \_\_\_\_\_ is personally known to us, that he/she  
2 signed this Appointment of Person to Make Decisions Concerning Disposition  
3 of Remains in our presence, that he/she appeared to be of sound mind  
4 and not acting under duress, fraud or undue influence, and that neither of  
5 us is the person so appointed by this document.

6  
7

8 Witnessed By:

9 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

10 Witnessed By:

11 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

12 \_\_\_\_\_

13 (9) Subject to the provisions of ORS 97.951 to 97.982, if disposition of the  
14 remains of a decedent has not been directed and authorized under this section  
15 within 10 days after the date of the death of the decedent, a public  
16 health officer may direct and authorize disposition of the remains.

17 (10) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, a person arrested for  
18 or charged with criminal homicide by reason of the death of the decedent  
19 may not direct the disposition of the decedent's remains. The disposition of  
20 the decedent's remains shall be made in accordance with the directions of  
21 an eligible person within the first applicable class established under subsection  
22 (2) of this section.

23 (11) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3) of this section, if the person  
24 who has the authority to direct the manner of disposition of cremated or  
25 reduced remains pursuant to subsection (1) or (2) of this section transfers  
26 any portion of the cremated or reduced remains to another person, the recipient  
27 of the cremated or reduced remains has the authority to direct the  
28 manner of disposition of the cremated or reduced remains in the recipient's  
29 possession.

30 **SECTION 2.** ORS 127.700 is amended to read:

31 127.700. As used in ORS 127.700 to 127.737:

1 (1) "Attending physician" shall have the same meaning as provided in  
2 ORS 127.505.

3 (2) "Attorney-in-fact" means an adult validly appointed under ORS  
4 127.540, 127.700 to 127.737 and 426.385 to make mental health treatment de-  
5 cisions for a principal under a declaration for mental health treatment and  
6 also means an alternative attorney-in-fact.

7 (3) "Declaration" means a document making a declaration of preferences  
8 or instructions regarding mental health treatment.

9 (4) "Health care facility" shall have the same meaning as provided in ORS  
10 127.505.

11 **(5) "Health care provider" shall have the same meaning as provided**  
12 **in ORS 127.505.**

13 [(5)] (6) "Incapable" means that, in the opinion of the court in a protec-  
14 tive proceeding under ORS chapter 125, or the opinion of two physicians, a  
15 person's ability to receive and evaluate information effectively or communi-  
16 cate decisions is impaired to such an extent that the person currently lacks  
17 the capacity to make mental health treatment decisions.

18 [(6)] (7) "Mental health treatment" means convulsive treatment, treatment  
19 of mental illness with psychoactive medication, admission to and retention  
20 in a health care facility for a period not to exceed 17 days for care or  
21 treatment of mental illness, and outpatient services.

22 [(7)] (8) "Outpatient services" means treatment for a mental or emotional  
23 disorder that is obtained by appointment and is provided by an outpatient  
24 service as defined in ORS 430.010.

25 [(8)] (9) "Provider" means a mental health treatment provider, a physician  
26 assistant licensed under ORS 677.505 to 677.525 or a nurse practitioner li-  
27 censed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390.

28 [(9)] (10) "Representative" means "attorney-in-fact" as defined in this  
29 section.

30 **SECTION 3.** ORS 127.707 is amended to read:

31 127.707. *[A declaration is effective only if it is signed by the principal and*

1 *two competent adult witnesses. The witnesses must attest that the principal is*  
2 *known to them, signed the declaration in their presence and appears to be of*  
3 *sound mind and not under duress, fraud or undue influence. Persons specified*  
4 *in ORS 127.730 may not act as witnesses.]*

5 **(1) A declaration is effective only if it is signed by the principal and:**

6 **(a) Signed by two competent adult witnesses; or**

7 **(b) Notarized by a notary public.**

8 **(2) If a declaration is validated under subsection (1)(a) of this sec-**  
9 **tion, each witness must:**

10 **(a) Witness the principal signing the declaration or acknowledging**  
11 **the signature of the principal on the declaration.**

12 **(b) Attest that the principal:**

13 **(A) Is known to the witness;**

14 **(B) Signed or acknowledged the declaration in the presence of the**  
15 **witness; and**

16 **(C) Appeared to be of sound mind and not under duress, fraud or**  
17 **undue influence.**

18 **(3) None of the following may serve as a witness to the signing or**  
19 **acknowledgment of a declaration:**

20 **(a) The principal's attending physician, provider or health care**  
21 **provider or a relative of the principal's attending physician, provider**  
22 **or health care provider;**

23 **(b) An owner, operator or relative of an owner or operator of a**  
24 **health care facility in which the principal is a patient or resident;**

25 **(c) A person related to the principal by blood, marriage or adoption;**  
26 **or**

27 **(d) A person appointed as attorney-in-fact or alternative attorney-**  
28 **in-fact by the declaration.**

29 **SECTION 4.** ORS 127.736 is amended to read:

30 127.736. A declaration for mental health treatment shall be in substan-  
31 tially the following form:

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DECLARATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being an adult of sound mind, willfully and voluntarily make this declaration for mental health treatment. I want this declaration to be followed if a court or two physicians determine that I am unable to make decisions for myself because my ability to receive and evaluate information effectively or communicate decisions is impaired to such an extent that I lack the capacity to refuse or consent to mental health treatment. "Mental health treatment" means treatment of mental illness with psychoactive medication, admission to and retention in a health care facility for a period up to 17 days, convulsive treatment and outpatient services that are specified in this declaration.

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CHOICE OF DECISION MAKER

If I become incapable of giving or withholding informed consent for mental health treatment, I want these decisions to be made by: (INITIAL ONLY ONE)

— My appointed representative consistent with my desires, or, if my desires are unknown by my representative, in what my representative believes to be my best interests.

— By the mental health treatment provider who requires my consent in order to treat me, but only as specifically authorized in this declaration.

APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE

If I have chosen to appoint a representative to make mental health treatment decisions for me when I am incapable, I am naming that person here. I may also name an alternate representative to serve. Each person I appoint must accept my appointment in order to serve. I understand that I am not required to appoint a representative in order to complete this declaration.

I hereby appoint:



1 NAME \_\_\_\_\_

2 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

3 TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ to act as my representative to make deci-  
4 sions regarding my mental health treatment if I become incapable of giving  
5 or withholding informed consent for that treatment.

6 (OPTIONAL)

7 If the person named above refuses or is unable to act on my behalf, or if  
8 I revoke that person's authority to act as my representative, I authorize the  
9 following person to act as my representative:

10 NAME \_\_\_\_\_

11 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

12 TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

13 My representative is authorized to make decisions that are consistent  
14 with the wishes I have expressed in this declaration or, if not expressed, as  
15 are otherwise known to my representative. If my desires are not expressed  
16 and are not otherwise known by my representative, my representative is to  
17 act in what he or she believes to be my best interests. My representative is  
18 also authorized to receive information regarding proposed mental health  
19 treatment and to receive, review and consent to disclosure of medical records  
20 relating to that treatment.

21 \_\_\_\_\_

22 DIRECTIONS FOR  
23 MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

24 This declaration permits me to state my wishes regarding mental health  
25 treatments including psychoactive medications, admission to and retention  
26 in a health care facility for mental health treatment for a period not to ex-  
27 ceed 17 days, convulsive treatment and outpatient services.

28 If I become incapable of giving or withholding informed consent for  
29 mental health treatment, my wishes are: I CONSENT TO THE FOLLOWING  
30 MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENTS: (May include types and dosage of  
31 medications, short-term inpatient treatment, a preferred provider or facility,

1 transport to a provider or facility, convulsive treatment or alternative out-  
2 patient treatments.)

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
4 \_\_\_\_\_  
5 \_\_\_\_\_  
6 \_\_\_\_\_  
7 \_\_\_\_\_  
8 \_\_\_\_\_  
9 \_\_\_\_\_

10

11 I DO NOT CONSENT TO THE FOLLOWING MENTAL HEALTH TREAT-  
12 MENT: (Consider including your reasons, such as past adverse reaction,  
13 allergies or misdiagnosis. Be aware that a person may be treated without  
14 consent if the person is held pursuant to civil commitment law.)

15 \_\_\_\_\_  
16 \_\_\_\_\_  
17 \_\_\_\_\_  
18 \_\_\_\_\_  
19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 \_\_\_\_\_  
21 \_\_\_\_\_

22

23 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT MY MENTAL HEALTH TREAT-  
24 MENT NEEDS: (Consider including mental or physical health history,  
25 dietary requirements, religious concerns, people to notify and other matters  
26 of importance.)

27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 \_\_\_\_\_  
29 \_\_\_\_\_  
30 \_\_\_\_\_  
31 \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_  
2 \_\_\_\_\_

3  
4 YOU MUST SIGN HERE FOR THIS DECLARATION TO BE EFFECTIVE:

5 \_\_\_\_\_  
6 (Signature/Date)

7  
8 **NOTARY OR WITNESSES**

9  
10 **(Have this document notarized by a notary public OR have 2**  
11 **competent adult witnesses complete the Affirmation of Witnesses.)**

12  
13 **NOTARIAL CERTIFICATE:**

14  
15 **State of \_\_\_\_\_**

16 **County of \_\_\_\_\_**

17 **Signed or attested before me on \_\_\_\_\_,**  
18 **2\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_.**

19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 **Notary Public - State of Oregon**

21  
22 **OR**

23  
24 **AFFIRMATION OF WITNESSES**

25 I affirm that the person signing this declaration:

26 (a) Is personally known to me;

27 (b) Signed or acknowledged his or her signature on this declaration in  
28 my presence;

29 (c) Appears to be of sound mind and not under duress, fraud or undue  
30 influence;

31 (d) Is not related to me by blood, marriage or adoption;

1 (e) Is not a patient or resident in a facility that I or my relative owns  
2 or operates;

3 (f) Is not my patient and does not receive mental health services from  
4 me or my relative; and

5 (g) Has not appointed me as a representative in this document.

6

7 Witnessed by:

8 \_\_\_\_\_

9 (Signature of Witness/ (Printed Name of Witness)

10 Date)

11 \_\_\_\_\_

12 (Signature of Witness/ (Printed Name of Witness)

13 Date)

14

15 ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT

16 AS REPRESENTATIVE

17 I accept this appointment and agree to serve as representative to make  
18 mental health treatment decisions. I understand that I must act consistently  
19 with the desires of the person I represent, as expressed in this declaration  
20 or, if not expressed, as otherwise known by me. If I do not know the desires  
21 of the person I represent, I have a duty to act in what I believe in good faith  
22 to be that person's best interest. I understand that this document gives me  
23 authority to make decisions about mental health treatment only while that  
24 person has been determined to be incapable of making those decisions by a  
25 court or two physicians. I understand that the person who appointed me  
26 may revoke this declaration in whole or in part by communicating the re-  
27 vocation to the attending physician or other provider when the person is not  
28 incapable.

29 \_\_\_\_\_

30 (Signature of (Printed name)

31 Representative/Date)

1 \_\_\_\_\_  
2 (Signature of Alternate (Printed name)  
3 Representative/Date)

4  
5 NOTICE TO PERSON  
6 MAKING A DECLARATION FOR  
7 MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

8 This is an important legal document. It creates a declaration for mental  
9 health treatment. Before signing this document, you should know these im-  
10 portant facts:

11 This document allows you to make decisions in advance about certain  
12 types of mental health treatment: psychoactive medication, short-term (not  
13 to exceed 17 days) admission to a treatment facility, convulsive treatment  
14 and outpatient services. Outpatient services are mental health services pro-  
15 vided by appointment by licensed professionals and programs. The in-  
16 structions that you include in this declaration will be followed only if a  
17 court or two physicians believe that you are incapable of making treatment  
18 decisions. Otherwise, you will be considered capable to give or withhold  
19 consent for the treatments. Your instructions may be overridden if you are  
20 being held pursuant to civil commitment law.

21 You may also appoint a person as your representative to make treatment  
22 decisions for you if you become incapable. The person you appoint has a duty  
23 to act consistently with your desires as stated in this document or, if not  
24 stated, as otherwise known by the representative. If your representative does  
25 not know your desires, he or she must make decisions in your best interests.  
26 For the appointment to be effective, the person you appoint must accept the  
27 appointment in writing. The person also has the right to withdraw from  
28 acting as your representative at any time. A “representative” is also referred  
29 to as an “attorney-in-fact” in state law but this person does not need to be  
30 an attorney at law.

31 This document will continue in effect for a period of three years unless

1 you become incapable of participating in mental health treatment decisions.  
2 If this occurs, the directive will continue in effect until you are no longer  
3 incapable.

4 You have the right to revoke this document in whole or in part at any  
5 time you have not been determined to be incapable. YOU MAY NOT RE-  
6 VOKE THIS DECLARATION WHEN YOU ARE CONSIDERED INCAPA-  
7 BLE BY A COURT OR TWO PHYSICIANS. A revocation is effective when  
8 it is communicated to your attending physician or other provider.

9 If there is anything in this document that you do not understand, you  
10 should ask a lawyer to explain it to you. This declaration will not be valid  
11 unless it is signed by two qualified witnesses who are personally known to  
12 you and who are present when you sign or acknowledge your signature.

13 NOTICE TO PHYSICIAN OR PROVIDER

14 Under Oregon law, a person may use this declaration to provide consent  
15 for mental health treatment or to appoint a representative to make mental  
16 health treatment decisions when the person is incapable of making those  
17 decisions. A person is “incapable” when, in the opinion of a court or two  
18 physicians, the person’s ability to receive and evaluate information effec-  
19 tively or communicate decisions is impaired to such an extent that the per-  
20 son currently lacks the capacity to make mental health treatment decisions.  
21 This document becomes operative when it is delivered to the person’s physi-  
22 cian or other provider and remains valid until revoked or expired. Upon be-  
23 ing presented with this declaration, a physician or provider must make it a  
24 part of the person’s medical record. When acting under authority of the  
25 declaration, a physician or provider must comply with it to the fullest extent  
26 possible. If the physician or provider is unwilling to comply with the decla-  
27 ration, the physician or provider may withdraw from providing treatment  
28 consistent with professional judgment and must promptly notify the person  
29 and the person’s representative and document the notification in the person’s  
30 medical record. A physician or provider who administers or does not admin-  
31 ister mental health treatment according to and in good faith reliance upon

1 the validity of this declaration is not subject to criminal prosecution, civil  
2 liability or professional disciplinary action resulting from a subsequent  
3 finding of the declaration's invalidity.

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5 **SECTION 5. ORS 127.730 is repealed.**

6 **SECTION 6. The amendments to ORS 97.130, 127.700, 127.707 and  
7 127.736 by sections 1 to 4 of this 2023 Act and the repeal or ORS 127.730  
8 by section 5 of this 2023 Act apply to documents executed on or after  
9 the effective date of this 2023 Act.**

10