



JUN 24 2021

Vote "Yes" on HB 2362 to protect access to end-of-life care in Oregon

For decades, Oregon has led the nation in recognizing that patients should have access to the full range of healthcare options at the end of their lives — including palliative care, hospice, the withdrawal of non-beneficial treatments, voluntarily stopping eating and drinking, pain management and medical aid in dying. However, those options are meaningless if patients can't access them.

In Oregon, 30-40% of acute care beds are already controlled by systems that deny access to these services. Mergers and acquisitions, if not properly monitored, have the potential to further exacerbate this problem, which is even more pronounced in rural and low-income areas. When physician practices and hospitals are acquired by entities with institutional policies that forbid certain services, providers are put in the unconscionable position of having to deny legal care options to their patients. Beyond medical aid in dying, mergers can limit access to other legal end-of-life options — voluntarily stopping eating and drinking, palliative sedation, withdrawal of care — often leading to unnecessary suffering for patients and loved ones. In addition, restricting these services causes significant harm to patients' families and loved ones, as memories of suffering are etched in their memories forever.

We ask you to act now by passing HB 2362. This law will protect access to services including compassionate end-of-life care while also protecting residents of Oregon from needless suffering at the end of life.

From the Desk of  
Representative Rachel Prusak

Compassion & Choices is comprised of two organizations that improve care and expand options at life's end: Compassion & Choices (501(c)(3)) educates, empowers, defends and advocates; the Compassion & Choices Action Network (501(c)(4)) focuses exclusively on legislation, ballot campaigns, and limited electoral work.

Paid for by Compassion & Choices Action Network.