

14 March 2021

To: House Committee on Human Services

Re: House Bill 2348

Dear Chair Representative Williams, Vice-Chairs Representatives Leif and Ruiz, and members of the Committee:

I am opposed to HB 2348 and urge you to table this absurd and intrusive maraud into the personal lives of Oregon's citizens.

The sponsors of this misguided legislation apparently are unable to refrain from meddling in the minute details of Oregon citizen's lives. It is one thing to advocate that vegetarian diets be available to certain confined (or captive) residents who might prefer such fare, but it is ridiculous beyond imagining to stipulate that certain foods be prohibited from hospital dietary choices.

While hospitals may not always provide culinary delights there is no doubt they do provide healthy, nutritious meals. Meals that most people would also serve at their own homes.

Aside from making a hospital stay even more unpleasant than they already can be what in the world do the sponsors of this legislation believe they are accomplishing? If the sponsors of this bill personally hold some biases towards certain foods what business is it of theirs to force their preferences on others? Well, it is no business of theirs at all!

And it is no business of the Oregon legislature what hospital patients are *allowed* to eat. What people put into their own mouths is no business of anyone but the individual.

What do the sponsor of this bill think they're doing? Do they think they're helping us? We do not need nor require this kind of help. It would be more helpful and productive if the sponsors of this bill would stop meddling in the details of private citizen's lives and focused their efforts on something actually serious.

Is this supposed to be something to help protect the health of hospital patients? Well, its not the states job what foods can be served or eaten. More importantly it's a dangerous notion that we need a state government to protect us from ourselves.

The Committee's time would be more well spent focusing on more important items than prohibiting *Jimmy Dean* sausage from being served to hospital patients.

Sincerely,



Richard Wisner