

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee,

We are pleased to offer our support for HB 2574. This legislation would allow a natural disposition of remains by natural organic reduction (NOR), gently converting human remains into soil in an accelerated process.

We have been following the science on Natural Organic reduction for many years, and were thrilled when it became legal in Washington State. But now we live in Oregon and would so love to have this option available for ourselves here. We can think of nothing more ecologically wasteful than putting bodies in concrete vaults or sending toxic fumes into the atmosphere with cremation. As gardeners it would fulfill a most ardent wish that our bodies can become useful soil to replenish the earth instead.

Oregonians are looking for more sustainable death care options. HB 2574 would create an additional option for death care practice that is more environmentally-friendly and sustainable. For the above reasons, I ask for your support of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Joyce & Dan Hannum

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