

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee,

We, Janna Pijoan and my husband, Oliver Pijoan, are extremely pleased to learn of the efforts to bring Recompose to Oregon. We offer our wholehearted 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.

As Oregonians, we care deeply about the land, the water, and the air which are all greatly impacted by most of the existing death care practices. In one year in the U.S. hundreds of thousands of metric tons of carbon dioxide are emitted through cremation. Besides taking up space that the planet cannot possibly sustain, traditional burials release millions of gallons of embalming chemicals into the ground and millions of board feet of hardwood is used for expensive caskets.

We are extremely impressed by Recompose, near Seattle, and have been following it's progress for years until it finally opened for business in December, 2020. Oregonians are looking for more sustainable, and kind death care options. HB 2574 would create an additional option for those of us who are seeking death care practices that are more environmentally-friendly and sustainable for the planet.

For these reasons, we ask for your support on this very important legislation.

Sincerely,

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