

Submitter: Robin Lee  
On Behalf Of: myself  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB891

I write in opposition to SB 891. This bill proposes to lower the standard of healthcare by allowing lower-licensed personnel to prescribe life-terminating medications, alternative delivery options of said medications, reducing the waiting period, and eliminating the residency requirement. I can imagine a terminal illness is quite stressful, sad, etc. Death comes to all of us. In my opinion, the best care is palliative care. Trained practitioners know how to manage pain and make a patient comfortable. The current 15-day waiting period should not be reduced. I don't believe assisted suicide should be allowed at all, but since it is currently legal, the waiting period should be retained because it plays an important part in assuring the patient's request is a "sound-mind" decision. It also serves to consider the rest of the family. They must deal/cope with the situation as much as the patient. Compassion for the patient dictates he be surrounded by family. Family involvement can assuage the stresses that made suicide seem a good 'out'. And there could very well be emotional healing that could lead to physical healing.

I don't see a need for the modifications of delivering the prescription.

I particularly don't see the rationale behind eliminating the residency requirement.

Oregon is a nice place to live. Emphasis "LIVE"! (It could be better. There is work to be done on forest management and reducing fire/smoke/lost resources. We need to conserve water, i.e., save the dams and keep green healthy landscapes. Both would be major benefits to our health, BTW. But I digress) It's EMBARRASSING to think Oregon might become a "death destination". Whoa! What are you thinking?

Please don't pass SB 891. Any change should be to withdraw assisted suicide altogether! Thank you.