

Submitter: Kenneth R Stevens Jr MD  
On Behalf Of: Physicians for Compassionate Care  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB891

Vote No on SB 891. Protect Oregonians' lives from abuse!

I have been a radiation oncologist M.D. since 1967; practicing at OHSU until I retired from medical practice in 2019 when I turned 80 years old. I have had the privilege of caring for many thousands of cancer patients over those 52 years. I was chair of the OHSU Radiation Oncology Department from 1989 to 2004. I was a founding member and have have been in the leadership of Physicians for Compassionate Care Education Foundation [[pccef.org](http://pccef.org)] since 1995; with many hundreds of members. I have extensively studied, written about and testified regarding assisted suicide and euthanasia for 30 years.

I encourage you to read and study my presentation "The Reality of Physician Assisted Suicide and What it Means" given to the University of Oregon Medical Ethics Class on Feb. 27, 2013. It is a PowerPoint presentation found online at: [[pccef.org/resources/presentations.htm](http://pccef.org/resources/presentations.htm) - Presentation #4]. In that presentation, I predicted that the "safeguards" of Oregon's assisted suicide law would be viewed as barriers to access to that law. Unfortunately, SB891 is an example of that expansion of the law.

Don't fall for the arguments of those favoring liberalization of the law. Oregonians should be protected against abuse of the law; and the proposed amendments are extremely dangerous: removing Oregon residency, elimination of requirement for a medical examination, expanding the role of assisting in suicide to a non-physician (why not expand all medical practice to a non-physician?), removes the 15-day waiting period, allows just 48 hours to obtain a deadly prescription.

One of your roles as Oregon State Senators is to protect the lives of your constituents. One way you can protect them, is by voting no on SB 891. Study my presentation listed above. This is a life and death decision. The lives of many Oregonians depend on your decision.

Thank you for your role as senators as leaders of our great state.

Dr. Kenneth R. Stevens, M.D.