

Submitter: keith balderston

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure: HB2279

HB 2279 is not what is needed for compassionate healthcare in our state. This bill will be detrimental to the profession in which we have trained. I am a practicing physician for over 30 years in Oregon, I take pride in knowing my patients, helping them navigate difficult circumstances, and provide excellence in their care. It takes time to develop a relationship in which decisions need to be made for significant healthcare issues. Trust is so important for these decisions. Taking away residency requirements for assisted suicide will erode the trust in our profession. We are not a vending machine to allow patients to choose anything they want from us. We profess what is good and right. Patients have choice but again it takes time and communication, listening and investigating, to understand the patient, their needs, and the needs of their loved ones. I believe this bill will erode the professionalism of healthcare in the state of Oregon.

Thank you, Keith Balderston MD