

Submitter: Joseph Gramer  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure: HB3258

Greetings, members of the Senate Committee on Health Care. My name is Joseph Gramer. I live in Salem, and have suffered intractable, debilitating chronic pain for over a decade.

As a member of an unfairly stigmatized subset of patients, and as a loving pet owner, I strongly urge you to oppose the vile, discriminatory HB3258, which is just a sneaky rehash of SB559. This ugly proposal has huge potential for causing a chilling effect on veterinarians' willingness to prescribe effective pain medicine for pets and livestock. (Witness the widespread medical abandonment of legions of human patients during these past years of radically anti-opioid hype and misinformation. Want to bet whether animals will fare better?) HB3258 is particularly perilous for those animals who happen to belong to people with chronic pain disabilities. It assumes the worst of us, and targets our pets for punishment.

It's worth noting too that this awful idea was brought to you – and to us – by the now resigned-in-disgrace Secretary of State. The former Secretary's rationale for pushing this biased notion was short on factual data, but long on paranoia and the tired old false narrative that legitimate chronic pain patients are bound to be drug-seeking addicts and abusers. (Real addicts deserve compassion too, of course. But they are not us.)

While some states are passing empathic laws to protect people in pain, Oregon has regrettably remained a hotbed of opio-phobic lies and patient harm. Please help change that. Do so now by euthanizing HB3258. It's cruel to humans. It's cruel to our beloved animals. Thank you