



**Senator Michael E. Dembrow
Senate District 23**

Amendments to SB 1560

We're seeking to reform Oregon's Compassionate Medical Release program for Adults in Custody, but the plan drafted in SB 1560 (introduced) is not ready for passage. We're aiming to turn the bill as introduced into a legislative task force staffed by LPRO, with an odd number of voting members (17), some non-voting members, a scope of investigation, and a timeline, with an E-clause.

Creates Task Force on Compassionate Medical Release.

Members:

- 4 legislators (non-voting)
- 1 Ombuds (non-voting)
- 1 DOC
- 1 DOC Health Care
- 2 representatives from Oregon's Parole Board: the Director and a member
- 1 Community Corrections
- 1 OPRD
- 1 representing AIC advocates
- 1 DOJ
- 1 with Academic Legal Expertise
- 1 District Attorney
- 1 from the Courts

- 2 medical professionals (not employed by DOC), one of whom has direct experience in corrections
- 2 advocates for survivors of crime, at least one of whom has direct lived experience as crime survivor
- 2 former adults in custody, or family members of adults in custody, who received or provided medical care while in the custody of the Department of Corrections.

The Task Force Shall Review and Examine:

- Existing state medical release statutes (ORS 144.122 and 144.126)
- Barriers that are slowing down the Parole Board process
- Criteria by which Parole Board determines public risk when making medical release decisions
- Medical release practices in other states
- Recent changes in the federal system
- Introduced form of SB 1560
- Potential distinctions between those who are close to death and those who are not, but are unable to perform activities of daily living independently
- Potential distinctions between direct referrals from DOC and petitions from AICs
- The process needed for assuring a quality care setting upon release
- Burden of Proof
- Role of SB 819 (2021) and Governor's clemency/pardon powers for qualifying AICs with M11 convictions
- Potential of Medical Leave vs Medical Release
- Providing access to legal counsel for AICs who petition independently
- Current costs of providing medical care for terminal or severely incapacitated AICs
- Potential savings from a reformed program
- Appropriate Involvement of victims in the release process

Outcome:

- Report including recommendations for statutory changes in the 2025 session
- Recommendations for improvements to policies and procedures

Emergency Clause

Due: end of December

