

Testimony in Support of SB 1575
Representative Bobby Levy
House District 58

Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Bobby Levy, and I serve as the State Representative for House District 58. I am submitting testimony today in support of Senate Bill 1575.

Hospice care is about dignity, trust, and compassionate service at the end of life. For rural and Eastern Oregon communities, that trust matters even more, because families often have fewer provider options and longer distances to travel for care.

Across the country, states have seen rapid hospice expansion driven by out-of-state corporations, with documented cases of fraud, understaffing, and reduced quality of care. As neighboring states tighten oversight, there is real concern that bad actors will shift their focus to Oregon. We are already seeing rapid growth in hospice licenses in parts of our state, raising red flags about whether quality and accountability are keeping pace.

SB 1575 takes a responsible, measured approach. It strengthens vetting for hospice licenses, ensures owners and operators meet basic qualifications, and prevents individuals with histories of health care fraud from entering this space. It also temporarily pauses new hospice licenses—while allowing exceptions for underserved areas—so the state can put stronger safeguards in place.

For Eastern Oregon, this bill is about protecting patients who may not have the ability to shop around or speak up when something goes wrong. It helps ensure that hospice providers are there to serve patients, not profits.

SB 1575 supports high-quality, community-based hospice care and protects some of our most vulnerable Oregonians. I respectfully urge your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bobby Levy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.