

Senate Bill 1575 A

Protecting the Dying Act

From the desk of Senator
Deb Patterson

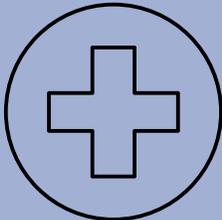
Deb Patterson



The goal of hospice services is to provide comfort, compassion, and dignity at the end of a person's life. However, **mega corporations** are increasingly buying up community hospices. When corporate owners take over a local hospice, they maximize profits by reducing staff and services and by spending less on patient care. Many corporations also selectively target patients who require less care or are likely to live longer, such as dementia patients. In essence, corporations and private equity firms are **gaming the system to profit from the dying**.

Patients enter hospice at the end of their lives, when they cannot advocate for themselves. Oregon needs safeguards to **protect vulnerable patients** and ensure they get high-quality, compassionate care. Neighboring states such as Washington, California, and Nevada have passed stronger protections. Without more safeguards here, bad actors may be drawn to Oregon next.

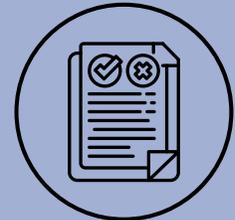
Key Provisions of SB 1575 A



Strengthen vetting for hospice licenses. Establish minimum qualifications for hospice administrators and medical directors, to ensure they have the training to properly care for patients.



Prevent bad actors from taking advantage of patients. Require criminal background checks of new hospice owners and prohibit individuals with histories of health care fraud and abuse from owning a hospice in Oregon.



Protect the integrity of Oregon's licensing process. Pause issuing new hospice licenses (except in underserved areas and other specified circumstances) until OHA finalizes rulemaking for these enhanced safeguards.

For more information, contact the Office of Senator Deb Patterson
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PALLIATIVE CARE
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