

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE TRANSPLANTATION MEDICINE PROGRAM

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TO: Oregon House Health Care Committee

FROM: Douglas J. Norman, M.D. Professor of Medicine

Director, Transplant Medicine

Oregon Health & Science University

RE: Concerns regarding HB 2839

Chair Greenlick and members of the committee,

Thank you for the apportunity to provide written testimony on House 8ii 2839, which would amend the Oregon Anatomical Gift Act. OHSU has serious concerns with this because it creates confusion about the entire system of organ procurement and transplantation and it is unclear what problem exists that needs to be solved.

OHSU is one of our region's transplantation centers, performing kidney, adult heart, pancreas and liver transplants in addition to more routine types of tissue transplantation.

As such, OHSU maintains a robust and well-reviewed set of criteria for patient eligibility for receipt of organ transplantation. Those criteria reflect national best practices and criteria established by the United Network for Organ Sharing.

Those criteria are regularly reviewed by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and our compliance with those criteria are regularly audited.

I want to make it clear that those criteria are the sole criteria for determining eligibility for transplant. OHSU does not discriminate arbitrarily on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or developmental disability.

A donated organ is a rare and precious gift. Over the course of decades, OHSU and other transplant centers around the country have developed a fair and successful process for ensuring those organs are used to their maximum benefit in the patients. who will benefit the greatest.

This legislation would put that program at risk in Oregon and the ability to receive organ and tissue transplants by those who need them.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit testimony. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,