



DISABILITY RIGHTS OREGON

February 5, 2019

TO: Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary
FR: Bob Joondeph, Executive Director
Jan Friedman, Senior Attorney
RE: Support for SB 683

Disability Rights Oregon (DRO) is the Protection and Advocacy office for Oregon. We have provided legal-based advocacy services to Oregonians with disabilities since 1977.

SB 683, in our view, largely recites the present intent and policy of Oregon guardianship law. The importance of doing so is that this intent and policy is not universally understood.

DRO has heard numerous complaints in our Guardianship Monitoring Project from protected persons who are restricted by the guardians from seeing their friends and family. We hear from protected persons who feel that they are neglected or not listened to by their guardians.

SB 683 directly addresses these concerns about poor guardian performance and, for that reason, deserves support.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 683.