



Disability Rights Oregon Supports SB 700

DRO is concerned that the majority of people with traumatic brain injury (TBI) do not have access to post-acute services or community-based supports.

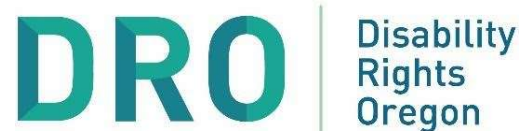
Since 1977 Disability Rights Oregon has been the State's Protection and Advocacy System.¹ We are authorized by Congress to protect, advocate, and enforce the rights of people with disabilities under the U.S. Constitution and Federal and State laws, investigate abuse and neglect of people with disabilities, and “pursue administrative, legal, and other appropriate remedies”. Through the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injuries (PATBI) program, Disability Rights Oregon provides direct advocacy to people with a TBI living in Oregon.

Individuals who experience a TBI are unnecessarily vulnerable to developing potentially preventable medical and psychosocial conditions and institutionalization through hospitalization or incarceration. Implementation of a system to better manage moderate to severe TBI will positively impact the lives of people with TBIs.

Oregon can Significantly Reduce Disability and Costs with Resource Facilitation. Resource Facilitation (RF) is an evidence-based intervention to manage TBI as a chronic condition that proactively helps the individual identify, obtain, and navigate needed brain injury and community support and services specific to the person’s needs. According to Dr. Lance Trexler from Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, his research has demonstrated that:

- 64-70% of those with TBI who received RF returned to work and school as compared to 36-50% of those who did not;
- RF resulted in a significant decrease in level of disability on measures of abilities, adjustment, and participation in activities at home and in the community;
- RF resulted in a significant decrease in survivor perceived need for services and a significant decrease in the services being received; and
- People with TBI leaving incarceration who got RF were significantly less likely to be re-arrested/re-incarcerated compared to those who did not (33% versus 54%).

DRO supports access to resources that will help individuals with TBI to live as independently as possible. If you have any questions regarding DRO’s position on SB 700 please contact Meghan Moyer at 503-432-5777.



¹ See ORS 192.517