



812 SW Washington St.  
Suite 900  
Portland, OR 97205

tel. 503-223-5587  
fax 503-223-4101  
[www.oregontriallawyers.org](http://www.oregontriallawyers.org)

**OTLA Testimony in Support of SB 110**  
House Committee on Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil Law  
April 26th, 2021

The Oregon Trial Lawyers Association fights for the rights of Oregonians injured through medical negligence. We strongly believe in protecting Oregonians' 7<sup>th</sup> Amendment right to a trial by jury. This is the tool that the founders adopted to make sure that those who are harmed could make their voices heard and seek justice.

In 2013, the Oregon Legislature created the Early Discussion and Resolution Program as a means to find alternative solutions for disputes around medical procedures that result in harm. The Early Discussion and Resolution process has worked reasonably well in the cases that are suited to this approach. For some families and some victims, EDR has been preferable to a trial by jury.

Participation in this process postpones the legal timelines for filing suit, so if the family feels that the EDR process does not meet their needs for closure and accountability, they still have the option of pursuing a legal strategy.

What happens when you or a family member are seriously injured or die as a result of healthcare? There is a constructive way forward.

An open conversation with a person from your healthcare facility or your healthcare provider can bring resolution for all. In the conversation, you can openly discuss what happened, and ask questions. The conversation can help you to agree on what should happen next.

Early Discussion and Resolution (EDR) offers a way to have these conversations.

We support SB 110 because it repeals the sunset on EDR and ask for your support.