

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee,

I would like to offer my strong support for HB 2574. HB 2574 would allow a natural disposition of remains by Natural Organic Reduction (NOR), gently converting human remains into soil in an accelerated process.

My wife and I recently engaged in the process of putting together advance directives and considering options and preferences for final disposition. We were very unhappy with current options from the perspectives of climate, energy impacts, and sustainability. Research led us to discover the option of natural organic reduction which we believe to be superior in every regard to current options, particularly in terms of climate and sustainability. We also find it to be a more satisfactory emotional option.

Sadly, the option of organic reduction does not appear to be available to us as Oregonians. To take advantage our survivors need to incur substantial additional cost along with the added burdens of complexity and emotional effort to coordinate transfer of our bodies to a state where the option appears to be available.

Like environmentally minded citizens everywhere, Oregonians are looking for sustainable death care options. HB 2574 would create an additional option for death care practice that is sustainable and more environmentally friendly. I ask for your support of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Bradlee T. LaBroad
Portland, Oregon (District 17)