

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee,

I, Dr. Steve Gordon, am pleased to offer my support for HB 2574. This legislation would allow a natural disposition of remains by natural organic reduction (NOR), gently converting human remains into soil in an accelerated process.

I believe this option is both safe and provides an important new option for Oregonians. Importantly, natural organic reduction aligns with the personal values and choices of a growing portion of Oregonians, including myself. Having cared for a number of Oregonians at the end of life I can personally attest to the importance of personal agency and self-determination for dying persons. Approving this bill and providing one more option is a simple and straightforward means to allow for respect and dignity.

Oregonians are looking for more sustainable death care options. HB 2574 would create an additional option for death care practice that is more environmentally-friendly and sustainable. For the above reasons, I ask for your support of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Steve Gordon, MD (retired)
PO Box 781
Warrenton, OR 97146

sgordonmd@gmail.com