

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee,

I, Leah Dieterich 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 am passionate about NOR as an alternative to cremation and burial both from an environmental standpoint (it's much less carbon intensive and does not pollute the ground with chemicals like formaldehyde) and also from a spiritual one, that our bodies could go on to nourish the soil that nourished us throughout our lives,. This to me, is the best contribution one could make in death. It is an option I would very much like to have for my own death as well as those in my family.

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,

Leah Dieterich

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