

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee,

I, Barbara Ray, 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.

From the time I first read that the human body can be economically composted and returned to enrich the earth I have felt that this is the right approach for me. All my life I have grown a part of my food for myself and have composted the parts of the plants that remained and any kitchen scraps. My experience has proven to me that I am what I have eaten. It makes intuitive sense to me to have the nutrients that remain in my body when I die composted and used to grow and sustain new life. The only thing that has kept me from pre-paying for this service is that my body would have to be transported all the way Seattle to have it done. I believe there are other Oregonians like myself who would like to have this option available to them in Oregon.

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,

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