

Public Testimony in Support of Senate Resolution 3
Presented by Gordana Kovačić-Burrows
May 7, 2025

As a supplement to the testimony provided by Steve Burrows this day, I would also like to add my written testimony related to a personal experience I had with Dr. Terry and my father, Ivan Kovačić.

I first became aware of Dr. Terry in 1994. My husband and I brought my parents here for a visit from Croatia, where they lived. My father suffered from a degenerative eye condition that had rendered him almost blind as he aged. We eventually were led to Dr. Terry on the recommendation of the first ophthalmologist we visited in Portland who performed a standard eye exam. In our interactions with this doctor, we learned that Dr. Terry had developed the tools, a special type of lens and the surgical procedure to cure the particular condition my father suffered from. To our utter amazement, we also discovered ***Dr. Terry was the only person in the entire world performing this type of surgery and he lived right here in Oregon.*** Needless to say, we scheduled the surgery and Dr. Terry then operated on both of my father's eyes at the age of 77. Remarkably, his vision was corrected to 20/40, an extraordinary accomplishment and one that allowed my father to see clearly for the first time in his life.

My family and I felt that over time, this change to his vision added additional years to his life and with his eyesight restored, he could read, watch TV and everything else people with normal eyesight enjoy, in his case, to the age of 91.

I am much indebted to Dr. Terry for this incredible gift he gave my father and I will stand proudly next to him with much appreciation, when Senate Resolution 3 is passed by the full Senate.