

Submitter: Isaac Buckley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1003

I believe that the current fifteen-day waiting period for assisted suicide is a safer policy for those who are at risk of being pressured or coerced into making an irreversible decision than a mere forty-eight hours, and that expanding assisted suicide so drastically has the potential to disproportionately affect the poor and other vulnerable populations—especially given the Trump administration's horrifyingly cruel policies towards anyone who isn't rich, White, and straight. Oregonians deserve better healthcare now more than ever, especially more easily accessible palliative care and mental health support; voters across the state approved Oregon Ballot Measure 111 back in 2022 to amend our constitution specifically to guarantee healthcare as a fundamental right to the people across our beautiful state, and our legislators should work towards solutions to help make this a reality for us all—but, as this bill stands now, there is a real risk that it will pressure the poor with serious health conditions to end their own lives instead of pursue expensive healthcare that puts a strain on their families. Although I have no doubt that the authors of this bill have good intentions and genuine compassion for the suffering, the current economic and political situation is fostering a sense of hopelessness for many across our state; the best way for our legislators to counter Trump's dehumanizing agenda is to help find ways to provide real support for Oregonians to live with dignity, not just die with dignity. Life is a right, not a privilege for the powerful.