

Submitter: Karl Dallas
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2467

I was defined as "dangerous to self," "dangerous to others" and "serious physical harm" for the purpose of involuntarily committing a person with mental illness. I was not. Now I am being helped from the trauma of never having done anything wrong or charged with anything but stigmatized by bad law.

Written Testimony Submission

To: Oregon Legislative Assembly, 83rd Session

Re: Opposition to House Bill 2467

Submitted by: Karl Dallas

Date: March 29, 2025

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing to urge you to reexamine House Bill 2467, a measure that risks deepening injustices for individuals like me with misclassified medical conditions. I have Functional Neurological Disorder Functional Movement disorder with drug induced Parkinsonism, Ankylosing Spondylitis a physical link to Parkinson's, but I do not have the dementia or the need for those medications that only made my conditions worse, as prescribed.

neurological condition often mistaken for a mental illness. Due to this misinterpreted and wrongly categorized physical and treatable Neurological disorder, I was twice

I have a glitch in my brain and or the Central Nervous system and Lithium was never on my three neurologist menu when a ignorant RN I hardly knew caused my life damage to this day. Housing, Real Help...

detained—once for three weeks and once for one week—simply for missing a mental health exam then denied access to my phone to get the notice, I never got. I was wrongly mislabeled as a

flight risk, I endured constant surveillance and was subjected to harmful psychiatric medications—forced into me. By doctors, I was prescribed and forced treated with inappropriate medications. Then the medications were abruptly discontinued which is unsafe that caused great bodily harm. Then I was forced back on these inappropriate drugs against my will. Forced institutionalization and forced treatment is not appropriate and is an ineffective treatment for documented neurological disorders.

HB 2467 compounds this problem with its new definitions of “dangerous to self” and “dangerous to others” as “likely to inflict significant physical harm within 30 days.” These unwarranted broad terms, combined with the bill allows for Courts to consider past behavior—like my detentions—that case an even wider net,

ensnaring people with physical conditions misdiagnosed and misinterpreted as mental illness. Reconsider the current verbiage used in HB 2467. This bill would more than likely be defined as more wrongful detentions, more forced medications, and less access to the proper medical care that I need. People with Functional Neurological Disorder deserve treatment tailored to our physical- Neurological help never addressed by any doctors treating me falsely without any real exam or testing, reality, not

indefinite confinement or toxic drugs based on a mental illness label.

Physical symptoms that manifest as something that aligns or is similar to this bill or the DSM (Diagnostic Statistical Manual) are symptoms, not a mental illness. I urge this body to reconsider HB 2467.

Any expansion to the commitment process that widens the door to institutionalization with less accountability. Broadening the criteria for involuntary commitment threaten to harm more people rather than protect individuals like me, caught in the crosshairs of well-intended yet very misguided policy.

Please ensure that Oregon's laws distinguish between mental illness and neurological disorders to prevent further suffering.

Sincerely,

Karl Dallas Mental Health Advocate