

Below is a link to the video testimony of Kelly McCauley in opposition to HB 3835:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EG1dPtsXA3A>

Kelly McCauley gives testimony about her concerns with HB 3835, sharing her lived experience as a person with a disability who has experienced abuse and heard stories of abuse from other people with disabilities.

Please refer to the enclosed written statement for further details.

To Chair Bowman, Vice-Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Pham, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kelly McCauley, and I am from Corvallis. I am a person with a disability. I'm opposed to House Bill 3835 because it will make abusing kids in residential and childcare placement easier. I don't want children with developmental disabilities getting pinned down or locked into rooms, and I think that is abuse.

I know what it is like to experience physical abuse. I experienced physical and verbal abuse growing up.

I also have a friend who told me about the abuse he experienced in a group home as a kid. He told me how his arms were pinned behind his back, and then he was grabbed by the neck and pinned to the floor. It was abuse. This happened in the 90s. It was before we had the child abuse protections we have now for those with developmental disabilities.

Many people with disabilities like me are opposed to the bill. People with developmental disabilities are against it because of real life experiences with abuse. This bill makes abuse easier or more likely to occur. I don't want you to pass a law that will make it easier to abuse kids.

Under this law, I don't like that it's only considered abuse to restrain or seclude a child if it causes intentional injury. Restraint and seclusion can cause unintentional injuries and emotional harm that is also abuse. The law won't protect children from that or investigate it.

I recently learned that other states still have institutions for people with disabilities. I'm also worried about sending Oregon's kids with disabilities to those institutions. This bill would allow that.

Also, I live in a group home. HB 3835 would let children with developmental disabilities to be placed in adult settings. Adult settings are different and have different rules and expectations. I don't think it would be appropriate to have kids staying in the same places as adults. For those reasons, I am OPPOSED to HB 3835. Thank you.