

Jim Evangelista / SB233A House Judiciary Hearing Testimony May 19, 2025.

Thank you Chairman Kropf and members of this Committee for bringing SB233A up for a hearing today. I am grateful to your colleagues in the Senate Judiciary for their unanimous vote in support of this amended bill and the full Senate for it's passage before coming here to the House.

In 2018 I had necessary surgery to remove defective hernia mesh. My PCP dismissed my complaints, following surgery, of prolonged severe abdominal pain saying I would have to live with it. Because I depended on him, his advice has cost me dearly.

Some five years later, my surgeon acknowledged that she had used sutures that would not dissolve and were caught in a bundle of nerves, causing my pain. Another surgery was scheduled to remove the sutures, unfortunately, the nerves were so badly damaged that my pain persists.

This is when I learned about Oregon's five year SOUR for medical negligence and I determined to offer my story as evidence that this law should have parity with the other State negligence laws that are ten year SOUR.

It is my hope that the medical SOUR will be revisited in an upcoming session.

I've met many individual members of the Legislature and their staff and each person has been kind and clearly committed to being part of the solution for all Oregonians during these polarizing and complicated times.

This has been a humbling experience. I've been shown a full measure of consideration, thoughtfulness and compassion as I've navigated the Capitol hallways.

As a person of faith and belief in justice, I want to thank each of you for your ongoing work for all Oregonians as well as ask for your vote, please, in support of SB233A.