

Submitter:

Dr. Brick Lantz

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1003

As a practicing physician in Eugene for 34 years, I am asking you to oppose SB 1003 which will expand physician assisted suicide (PAS) in Oregon. I volunteer at Volunteers in Medicine (VIM), am medical director of a clinic that care for vulnerable populations, and lead American Academy of Medical Ethics nationally. Expanding PAS will be detrimental to vulnerable and at risk populations, including the disabled, those with mental health issues, those that are dependent on others, and those that fear loss of purpose. Every human being deserves better. Every human being deserves compassion without taking their life. Every human being deserves excellence in palliative care without risk of coercion. I am concerned that Oregon and my community will become like Field of Dreams. If you will build it they will come. This will draw patients from other states and distract from appropriate care in those states. I want what is healthy for my community and this will harm that health. The Family Nurse Practitioner at our clinic appropriately refers patients that are suicidal for psychiatric care. Occasionally they are referred to the Emergency Room if there is immediate risk to their life. This SB 1003 will harm care for those that are suicidal. Please vote no.