

Submitter:	Becky Kliewer
On Behalf Of:	Myself
Committee:	Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB1003

I oppose Senate Bill 1003, which expands Death with Dignity Act (Assisted Suicide).

Reducing the 15-day waiting period to just 48 hours preys upon the vulnerable, physically weak, and elderly. They may be dealing with cognitive difficulties at a susceptible time.

The 48-hour wait isn't enough time to provide counseling, therapy, and pain management.

Allowing nurse practitioners and physician assistants, instead of physicians, to prescribe lethal medication opens potential risks. They work under the oversight of physicians and hospitals. Will their right to refuse to participate in the death of another be infringed?

SB1003 would require hospices and hospitals to publicly disclose whether they participate in assisted suicide. It sends a mixed message. People already delay getting palliative care when it would benefit their quality of life. Individuals and families already confuse palliative and hospice care with assisted suicide. This confusion erodes trust.

Finally, Oregon has become a "destination" state for assisted suicide.. Taxpayer money is already spent paying for out-of-state people wanting "suicide services". SB1003 would create a greater economic impact for which the tax payers will pay!