

Since none of us know the future, we can never tell when someone who is in pain or depressed enough to consider suicide may later change their mind, so making it easier and faster to kill oneself will not help the people of Oregon. While we all die sooner or later, death is not the solution to the troubles of life; it does not heal. While I agree that there may come a time when an elderly or sickly person's body fails or collapses to such a degree that they choose to cease life support that only delays the inevitable, that is not the same thing as directly causing death or killing someone by making that choice for them. Human life is precious, and we ought to promote and improve life rather than increasing ways to end it prematurely. I understand your philosophy may be different, but this is the truth and I'm convinced that there are better ways to help people in distress and suffering, like training and encouraging people to show appropriate kinds of compassion for people who are lonely, mentally wounded, or otherwise tempted to choose suicide. Please use your influence to protect lives, not end them.