

Testimony for HB 4142, Ryan's Law

Good morning, Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Nelson and Diehl.

My name is Anthony Taylor. I am the Legislative Director of Compassionate Oregon, and I also hold the patient seat on the Oregon Cannabis Commission and currently serve as Chair.

I am here today in strong support of HB 4142, Oregon's version of Ryan's Law, which modernizes and clarifies how the medical use of cannabis by patients and residents is guided in hospice, palliative care, and residential care settings.

This legislation was originally introduced in 2023 as HB 3567 but did not receive a hearing, again in 2025 as HB 3214 where it passed out of this committee with a *do-pass* recommendation but unfortunately did not clear Ways and Means prior to adjournment.

Additionally, Ryan's Law, originally adopted in California, has also now also been adopted in Minnesota and Maryland.

The bill still requires written policy and educational training relating to the use of cannabis in end-of-life care, but we have also made two important improvements to the bill.

First, we worked closely with the Oregon Health Authority to fully eliminate the fiscal impact that previously raised concern.

Second, we narrowed the scope of required education and training. Under the updated bill, only *direct care staff who are designated as OMMP organizational or facility caregivers* are required to complete the cannabis education.

This significantly reduces the burden on facilities while ensuring that the staff most directly involved in patient care have the appropriate guidance. Importantly, the bill does not prohibit other staff from receiving training — it simply limits who is required to do so.

Finally, HB 4142 applies only to registered OMMP patients and ensures that patients who are already lawfully using medical cannabis are not forced to abandon that therapy when entering hospice or residential care.

At its core, this bill is about patient dignity, autonomy, and quality of life, particularly for Oregonians in the final stages of life.

We respectfully ask the committee to once again pass this legislation and allow Oregon to reaffirm its commitment to compassionate, patient-centered end of life care.

Thank you for your time, and I'm happy to answer any questions.