



August 19, 2020

To: ODDS Staff and Stakeholders

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

In the recent special session, the Oregon legislature passed [Senate Bill 1606](#), legislation to help ensure that Oregonians with disabilities can see their families and support staff in the hospital to receive disability-related support.

Some of the important changes in this bill includes:

- Individuals with disabilities have a right to have a support person with them in the hospital. Individuals can designate up to three supporters, paid or unpaid.
- Hospitals cannot condition treatment, or suggest that treatment or care, is conditioned on having a Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST), advance directive, or other documentation of a decision to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment.
- A hospital must ensure the individual has the right to include a support person of their choosing be present for any discussion regarding hospice care or any discussion that may lead to documenting a decision to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment.
- A health care representative, attending physician, or attending health care provider statutorily appointed under ORS 127.635(2) or (3) to make a decision to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment for a person who has an intellectual or developmental disability must notify the case manager before life-sustaining procedures may be withheld or withdrawn.

In response to these important changes, ODDS created a number of tools to help individuals and their families, as well as case management entities, understand their rights under Senate Bill 1606. Details are in transmittal [IM-20-093](#) and include:

- [ODDS Knowing your Rights Fact Sheet](#)
- [List of Resources for Knowing Your Rights](#)
- [Worker's Guide](#): Supporting Individual Preferences in Medical Decision-Making
- [Fact Sheet](#) on Notification Requirements before Withholding or Withdrawing Life-Sustaining Treatment
- [POLST Fact Sheet](#)
- [Sample tool](#) for documenting preferences for medical treatment

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lilia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Previous Director's Messages are available at
[http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-
DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx)

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You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the Oregon Office of Developmental Disabilities Services at 503-945-5811. We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.