

House Memorial 2

Sponsored by Representative GARRARD; Representative BRUUN (at the request of Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requests that members of Oregon Congressional Delegation support meaningful medical malpractice liability reform.

HOUSE MEMORIAL

To the members of the Oregon Congressional Delegation:

We, your memorialists, the House of Representatives of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas a fair and efficient legal system free from frivolous and abusive litigation is necessary for a vibrant economy and access to affordable health care; and

Whereas rapidly increasing medical malpractice awards are driving up the cost of malpractice insurance premiums, reducing access to health care and fueling rapid growth in health care costs; and

Whereas frivolous medical lawsuits lead to hospitals closing their doors, doctors refusing to see new patients and, in some cases, doctors being forced to leave for other states; and

Whereas reasonable caps on damages protect patients from the rising costs of and diminishing access to health care that result from lawsuit abuse; and

Whereas victims who suffer losses, not their attorneys, should receive the greater share of damage awards; and

Whereas the timely filing of lawsuits promotes fairness for all parties; and

Whereas medical malpractice reforms enacting caps on damages, allowing for the inclusion of collateral source payments in jury considerations and imposing time limits on the filing of lawsuits will enhance access to health care, reduce medical insurance premiums and decrease the cost of health care; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the Seventy-third Legislative Assembly, respectfully request that the members of the Oregon Congressional Delegation support meaningful malpractice liability reform; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.