

## **Oregon's five-year medical malpractice law is unfair and needs to be changed.**

Medical negligence has long-lasting, hidden impacts, including trauma, and victims often do not discover the true extent or cause of their injury until years after the initial incident, far beyond the current five-year limit.

This is especially true with conditions arising from delayed cancer diagnoses or complications from surgeries, where symptoms manifest later. When we hurt most of us don't begin seeking legal action. Rather, we seek understanding, care and healing. But the fact is, if you were harmed by medical malpractice and didn't realize it within five years, Oregon's law will leave you without any legal recourse, and worse.

Oregon's five-year limit treats medical malpractice victims differently than victims of other forms of negligence. For all other negligence claims, the Statute of Ultimate Repose or SOUR is 10 years here in Oregon. There doesn't seem to be a fair or logical justification to place a disproportionate burden on medical malpractice victims.

Extending the SOUR to 10 years is a nonpartisan remedy for all Oregonians. Passing this into law would achieve parity with Oregon's other negligence laws and provide a more reasonable timeframe for discovery and litigation, to ensure fair treatment for all victims of negligence, and help hold negligent healthcare providers accountable.

As a victim of medical negligence, living with pain, like you, I have also confronted this five year SOUR and I am working to change the law to ten years, for all Oregonians.

If you too have endured this added consequence of being a victim of a medical system that puts profits over people and deploys well paid lobbyists skilled at pressuring lawmakers to cast votes that prevent our access to equal protection and our rights to recourse when we have been harmed, this is our call to action.

I am asking you to share your own story and join our cause, today, to let them hear our combined voices for change. Thank you, and please visit:

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