

**DUANE STARK**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
HOUSE DISTRICT 4



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

March 25, 2019

Chief Clerk Sekerak,

Re: Vote Explanation on House Bill 2014

House Bill 2014 attempts to respond to the Oregon Supreme Court's ruling on the "Horton" case that had the unfortunate consequence of removing caps on noneconomic damages in wrongful injury cases. I believe in the right to a jury trial and I also believe that a jury should have the ability to determine the value of the noneconomic damages an individual is entitled to receive in specific cases, such as intentional torts. The Horton ruling leaves us with the challenge of figuring out how we balance the need for insurance in rural areas while protecting victims at the same time. I believe the amendments that were being worked on would have been a good attempt to resolve this tension. Unfortunately, the bill moved forward and out of committee before the amendments were finalized. It is my hope that the amendments will be considered and adopted in the Senate so that I can support this bill.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Duane Stark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Duane Stark

State Representative

House District 4