



March 30, 2013

Senate Health Care & Human Services Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senators,

My name is Richard Rehman and I am the Executive Director (ED) of Hope Pregnancy Clinic located here in Salem. Since 1985 we have served over 30,000 clients in Marion and Polk Counties who were facing the possibility of unplanned pregnancies. Our medical facility currently offers pregnancy testing, obstetrical ultrasounds, non-professional counseling, community resource referrals, maternity and baby items, a car seat program, support for post-partum depression plus ongoing friendship and emotional support. We are a non-profit organization that is supported by the local community and all of our services are offered free of charge.

As I read SB490, the type of organization and services provided, as listed in this bill, accurately describes who we are and what we do. However, as the ED of this organization, I can state, for the record, that such legislation is unnecessary and the accusations leveled against organizations like ours are completely unfounded. We are a fully accredited medical clinic through the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care or AAAHC as they are commonly known by. (Go to www.aaahc.org to learn more about this organization and the high standards that accreditation sets.) AAAHC accreditation requires full HIPPA compliancy and represents the highest medical standards in the industry. These are our operational standards and the feedback we receive from those we serve is overwhelmingly positive.

SB490 is not in the best interests of the state, the organizations it targets or the patients we serve. I am asking this committee to consider the quality of services we offer, our standards of patient care and make the decision to not pursue this legislation any farther. Also, in light of the fact that this is the 2nd time we've come before this committee to present our case (in 2011 with SB769), I appeal to you to put this to rest once and for all. We serve our community with integrity and will continue to do so for many years to come.

Sincerely,
Richard Rehman, Executive Director
Hope Pregnancy Clinic
503-364-2543
richard@hopepcsalem.org