

Senate Health Care and Human Services Committee
Oregon State Senate
Laurie Monnes-Anderson, Chair
State Capitol
Salem, OR

Re: SB490

Dear Madam Chairwoman and Committee Members:

March 29, 2013

Due to the short notice I received on the hearing date of SB490 and the distance required to travel from my home to Salem (approximately 400 miles) I am submitting my testimony in writing. I am writing to express my opposition to SB490, a bill to regulate Pregnancy Resource Centers (PRCs) in Oregon.

I am a Registered Nurse at Hope Pregnancy Center in Ontario, OR. There have been countless numbers of women who have come to PRCs around the State who are considering abortion, adoption or parenting. Sometimes there is much confusion because many women have come from families where abortion is a common practice. Their mothers, aunts and other relatives have had abortions so they are often unsure if they would like to parent or would consider adoption.

Women who come to PRCs are informed about stages in fetal development from conception to birth. They are offered free pregnancy testing and free ultrasounds by qualified medical staff. Many of the medical staff gladly and freely offer their time because we care about women and children. By offering information on parenting, adoption and abortion women are educated about their options. We offer classes in parenting and counseling by professional staff about adoption.

The medical staff offer factual information on fetal development based on accurate medical resources that some woman have never heard. Women are also educated about abortion procedures with factual, medically accurate information. Women then have truthful information and go home to make a decision. Some women parent, some choose adoption and some choose abortion. PRCs do not refer to abortion clinics. Our PRC does not refer to Babies-R-Us either.

Sincerely,

Josephine Simerly, RN
848 Klamath Ave
Nyssa, OR 97913
(541)-372-5120
jo@simerly.net