



Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon

**To: Senate Committee on Rules**  
**From: Mary Nolan, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon**  
**Date: June 18, 2015**  
**Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2879-A with the -A8 amendment**

Dear Senator Rosenbaum and members of the Committee:

As the leading women's health care provider and advocate, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon supports increased access to birth control by allowing women to access oral contraceptives through their local pharmacist. We work every day to help reduce unintended pregnancies and keep women healthy. A key to increased access is to ensure that birth control remains affordable and accessible for all. It's critical that any bill pushing for increased access keeps the insurance coverage we've fought so hard to secure and we are pleased that HB 2879-A8 does that.

When we expand access to birth control, we expand women's economic opportunity. At some point in their lives, 99 percent of sexually active women will use some form of birth control. Contraception is extremely safe and effective for most healthy women. Studies show that the advantages of contraception use far outweigh the personal health risks and the public health harm associated with unintended pregnancy for women of all ages. Access to contraception should be guided by existing medical consent laws and sound medical practice.

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon urges your support of the -A8 amendment to HB 2879-A. Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon supports HB 2879 if it includes the -A8 amendment.