
Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon

March 23, 2017

Chair Lively and members of the House Early Childhood and Family Supports Committee:

As the state's leading political voice for reproductive healthcare, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon is proud to be a part of the Fair Shot for All and Oregon Health Equity Alliance coalitions, which are making important advancements to ensure that all women and families in Oregon have a level playing field to achieve success.

At Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon, we know that caregiving matters. Whether it's the birth of a child, the serious illness of a spouse, or the end-of-life for a parent - we all need time to care for our families. That is why we are writing to thank you for your consideration of HB 3087, the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act, which will ensure that people can take qualifying absences from work to care for their loved ones.

This is a public health issue for our patients. Family and medical leave promotes family bonding and healthier children. Mothers who are able to take leave are more likely to start and continue breastfeeding, and fathers who take two or more weeks off after the birth of a child remain more involved in their child's care throughout the first year of life.

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon supports the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act because it allows new parents time to care for their children—giving them the best chance at a healthy start in life. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of House Bill 3087, the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act. We urge your yes vote.

Sincerely,



Mary Nolan
Executive Director
Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon