

A Global Disability Resource and Advocacy Center

- **DATE:** March 25, 2021
- TO: House Committee on Health Care
- Re: IDSP POLICY POSITION for HOUSE BILL 2958

ISSUER:

Institute for Disability Studies and Policy (IDSP) Dr. William Toombs, Chief Research Officer

IDSP POLICY POSITION FOR HB 2958:

HB 2958 "allows pharmacist to prescribe and dispense preexposure prophylactic antiretroviral drug to patient after completion of patient assessment. Directs State Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules. Requires health insurance policies that have prescription drug benefit to cover cost of drugs prescribed and dispensed by pharmacists within their scope of practice, including cost of pharmacists' consultation fees associated with prescribing and dispensing drugs."

The IDSP research team concludes that the passage of HB 2958 has the potential to benefit persons with and without disabilities from all demographic categories, improve access to HIV prevention tools and enhance Oregon's independent living program. HB 2958 eliminates barriers to immediate access to prevention and linkage to care.

ISSUER BACKGROUND: Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living (EOCIL) is a global cross-disability resource and advocacy center that promotes independent living and equal access for all persons with disabilities. EOCIL has two primary functions:

- To operate the Institute for Disability Studies and Policy (IDSP). Through the IDSP's core research and policy officers, the IDSP provides original and scholarly actionable research for disability systems change to enhance independent living, equitable access to services and resources, and universal human rights.
- To provide peer-based services to people with disabilities living in eastern Oregon. Based in Ontario, Oregon, with additional offices in Pendleton and The Dalles, EOCIL serves consumers in 13 central and eastern Oregon counties: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, and Wheeler.