

Submitter: Chuck Gasaway

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

Oppose HB 2002

HB 2002 is a giant step in injecting government into the child-parent relationship. Undermining the family appears to be the core of this travesty, by putting the child in the 'drivers seat' in issues of abortion and 'reproductive health care.'

Providers, with vested interests in the sale of goods and performing services with no concern for the future of the child, would have access to the child without the knowledge of parent or guardian, who may need to deal with the long-term impact of decisions they were excluded from.

Mixed signals come from the State of Oregon. While it is illegal to buy or possess tobacco if under 21 (Senate Bill 754, signed into law August 9, 2017), it would be quite acceptable to seek abortion, and of course, the requisite actions that lead to pregnancy.

From OHA website:

Raising the age to purchase tobacco to 21 years old is an evidence-based strategy that will help reduce youth initiation of tobacco. Most addiction to tobacco starts in adolescence, so protecting kids is critical. Nine out of ten adults who smoke report that they started smoking before they turned 18, and almost 100 percent start before they turn 26.

If so concerned about tobacco use for children, why no concern for the long-term impact of abortion? There seems to such an inordinate focus on abortion and 'reproductive health care.' Why not reduce the 'youth initiation to pregnancy' to paraphrase the paragraph from the OHA tobacco page above.

HB2002 seems to promote the demise of parental involvement in the life of a child while implying that sexually, anything goes.