

Submitter: Regina Ayars

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

March 18, 2023

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support HB 2002 that addresses Reproductive Health Care and Gender Affirming Treatment. Having lived through the late 1960s and early 1970s as a young woman just beginning my adult life, I can recall the anxiety and yes fear of becoming pregnant. I remember sitting in a doctor's office in 1970 and being told I was pregnant. I can see myself now, walking out of that office building onto a busy sidewalk in San Francisco devastated and not knowing what I was going to do. Lucky for me, either the test was false or I had a miscarriage and didn't know it. I did not have to make a difficult decision but if I had my options would have been limited prior to Roe v Wade.

Now as a woman in her mid 70s, I cannot believe there are young women and not so young women across the country who maybe experiencing that same anxiety and fear about an unwanted pregnancy that I experienced 50+ years ago.

Women living in Oregon assume that they are protected from losing their rights to make their own decisions about their own reproductive health. Today, they do have that right but

HB 2002 addresses the many loopholes that could be used to prevent them from making these very personal decisions in the future.

I ask for your support of HB 2002.

Thank you for your public service.

Regards,

Regina Ayars  
Ashland, Oregon