



The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

Reproductive Health and Access to Care HB 2002

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) stands in support of this legislation, which aims to protect providers and health care centers who provide reproductive health services and gender-affirming care in Oregon, expands access and ensures fundamental rights to such care. We stand in strong opposition to any legislative interference in the provider-patient relationship.

In particular, we wish to elaborate on our organization's support for the following provisions:

<p>Liability protection</p>	<p>Laws criminalizing abortion and gender-affirming care in other states have made health care providers fearful to provide these services for fear of losing their licensure and/or malpractice coverage. This bill would ensure that health care providers who perform abortion and gender-affirming care are protected, regardless of the state of residence of the patient.</p>
<p>Civil and criminal protections for providers</p>	<p>Following the Dobbs decision, Oregon has become a destination for those seeking abortion care, including residents of neighboring Idaho. Idaho has some of the most restrictive abortion laws in the nation, including "bounty hunter" legislation that encourages private citizens to sue abortion providers. Many states are also considering legislation that would also promote extradition of abortion providers caring for their citizens in states where abortion is legal. This bill would protect Oregon providers from such legislative harassment.</p>
<p>Protecting patients who seek abortion care</p>	<p>HB 2002 would expand and codify the right to the full spectrum of reproductive health care, regardless of age. Oregon already protects the right of minors to make decisions about contraceptive care without parental consent. ACOG supports the expansion of statutory language to clearly protect confidentiality and decisionmaking for minors with regard to abortion care.</p>