

Submitter: Carmen Saunders

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

HB2002 will be very harmful to our children. Oregon is doubling-down on gender-affirming treatments without fully understanding the damage being done to children and young adults. The rapid rise of transitions is also being accompanied by a rapid rise in detransitions – we are not exercising necessary care to determine who should and should not receive treatment. 80-90% of the children with gender dysphoria grow out of it, why are we pushing them along to get transgender treatment? There are no long-term studies to support our approach.

These hormone and medical treatments commit our youth to a lifetime of chemical dependency. In some cases, they are made sterile or develop chronic symptoms as a result of their treatments. In too many cases, we are rushing to treatment at a time when our youth are the most vulnerable and confused. Instead of getting the care they deserve we are pushing them down a path of permanent change and regret. I vote no.