

Date: March 18, 2023

To: House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

From: Daniel Carrillo

RE: Support HB 2002

Chair Nosse, Vice-chairs Goodwin and Nelson, Members of the committee:

My name is Daniel Carrillo, a senior at Portland State University, and I am writing to express **support for House Bill 2002, Reproductive Health and Access to Care.**

I am majoring in public health and have extensive experience working with the youth in our Oregon community. House Bill 2002 would positively impact the youth in our Oregon state. It is estimated that 1.4% of youths between the ages of 13 and 17 year identify as transgender or gender diverse(Herman, 2022). With many of these youth residing in Oregon we would create a health gap for these youth by failing to provide health care like gender affirming care. The increase of adolescent and young adults that report identifying as transgender or gender diverse is thought to be due to awareness(Rafferty, 2018). Due to this fact we will see an increase of youth seeking gender affirming care.

Everyone deserves access to life-saving medical care. Nobody should be denied gender affirming care. In 2023 alone, more than 300 bills attacking LGBTQ+ people have been introduced to state legislatures across the country. As transgender rights in particular are under attack nationwide, Oregon has an opportunity to continue standing as a leader for LGBTQ+ rights and health care access.

My support goes beyond enacting support for these youth as the bill covers a variety of health care services. This is why I urge your yes vote on HB 2002. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Daniel Carrillo

Sources:

Herman, J. L., O'Neil, K.K.,(2022) How many adults identify as transgender in the United States?*Los Angeles School of Law*. <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/trans-adults-united-states>.

Rafferty, J., Committee on Psychosocial Aspects of Child and Family Health, Committee on Adolescence, Section on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health and Wellness, Yogman, M., & Baum R.(2018)Ensuring comprehensive care and support for transfender and gender-diverse children and adolescents.*Pediatrics*.142(4).