

Submitter: Meghane Hardin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

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

I am writing to express support for House Bill 2002, Reproductive Health and Access to Care, which will help create a future in which everyone in Oregon has the ability to make decisions about their own bodies and access the full range of reproductive, sexual, and gender affirming health care.

Access to the full range of sexual and reproductive health care is a basic human right.

The Dobbs decision worsened the public health crisis around abortion care. The race to criminalize access to health care will only deepen health inequities and create generational consequences. Without further protections, people of color and low-income families are most at risk for further economic and health consequences and now, the threat of criminalization.

I have had to change my primary care physician (even though I was very satisfied with the care I was receiving) and am looking closely at affiliations of the medical care providers I consult because I do not want any provider who qualifies for an exemption to RHEA to receive a penny associated with me. My husband also decided to change to the other insurance provider working with his employer for the same reason. Not everyone is afforded that much choice in providers and these changes are difficult in Portland where there are more options for care than anywhere else in Oregon. I believe all Oregonians should have EASY access to reproductive health care, whatever their needs might be.

This is why I urge your yes vote on HB 2002. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely