

Submitter: Blair Peters

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

Date: March 20, 2023

To: House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

From: Blair Peters, MD

RE: Support HB 2002

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

My name is Dr. Blair Peters, Assistant Professor of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and Urology and member of the Transgender Health Program at OHSU. I am writing to express my strongest possible support for House Bill 2002, Reproductive Health and Access to Care, which will help create a future in which every person in Oregon has the ability to make decisions about their own body and access the full range of reproductive, sexual, and gender affirming health care.

Beyond the obvious need to improve and protect access to these necessary services, there is an urgent need to protect providers of this care. As a gender diverse person who provides gender-affirming surgical services, I have endured years of targeted harassment and threats of physical violence because of the medically necessary care that I provide. Despite this, there is limited protection in place for providers of affirming care, in times of escalating threats to our safety. Many colleagues have narrowed services, taken down portals of access and stepped away from care due to concerns for their own safety. If the providers of this care are not protected from threats of litigation and physical violence, then access to care will be in jeopardy.

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

Sincerely,

Blair Peters, MD